

19990130.qrp v01_n352.qrl.990130

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 19:04:36 EST

From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: QRP-L digest 1352

QRP-L Digest 1352

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) [31412] FYBO on Brannan Island
by Jeff <fantbb@yahoo.com>
- 2) [31413] FYBO: Palo Alto Multi-Op Challenge!
by Joe Gervais <vole@primenet.com>
- 3) [31414] FS: Ten Tec 40M QRP 1340
by "Tim Cook" <timcook@erinet.com>
- 4) [31415] BSouteng@aol.com, KD5FTZ, POSTPONE
by BSouteng@aol.com
- 5) [31416] FS: NorCal Cascade Kit
by SKIPNC90@aol.com
- 6) [31417] Re: FYBO on Brannan Island
by SKIPNC90@aol.com
- 7) [31418] Re: silly question
by Peter Larsen <larsenp@cadvision.com>
- 8) [31419] More F.S.
by K4NK@aol.com
- 9) [31420] Re: FYBO Question
by Peter Larsen <larsenp@cadvision.com>
- 10) [31421] IC-730 WARC; TS-50 QRP mod.
by Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>
- 11) [31422] FOX: Team scores (fwd)
by Bruce Rattray <rattray@gpfn.sk.ca>
- 12) [31423] Re: bench signal generator
by David Shalita <af389@lafn.org>
- 13) [31424] Re: [Re: Indoor Antennas]
by Roy Lincoln <wa4dou@usa.net>
- 14) [31425] signal generator update
by "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
- 15) [31426] Re: Various issues
by Brett Gazdzinski <Brett.Gazdzinski@mci.com>
- 16) [31427] Re: UPS
by crc <crc@io.com>
- 17) [31428] Re: Various issues
by Roy <marion@montana.com>
- 18) [31429] Re: Various issues
by Brett Gazdzinski <Brett.Gazdzinski@mci.com>
- 19) [31430] Re: Various issues

- by mwattcpa@earthlink.net (Marty Watt)
- 20) [31431] wanted...HW-9
by "Thaire Bryant" <tbry37@ici.net>
- 21) [31432] JUNK BOX REGEN MODS
by mjfitz@uswest.net
- 22) [31433] Re: Ft. Smith, AR Hamfest
by Jay Bromley <w5jay@alltel.net>
- 23) [31434] Re: IC-730 WARC; TS-50 QRP mod.
by "Radman" <radman@best.com>
- 24) [31435] FS: Icom IC-751A
by Hank Kohl K8DD <k8dd@contesting.com>
- 25) [31436] Fireball L.P.F.
by dave_epps@juno.com
- 26) [31437] Rotary Encoders
by "Graeme Zimmer" <gzimmer@vic.bigpond.net.au>
- 27) [31438] Heroes/Who's Who....Honor List (long)
by N7YA@aol.com
- 28) [31439] oops...forgot one
by N7YA@aol.com
- 29) [31440] Re: IC-730 WARC; TS-50 QRP mod.
by Ed Loranger <we6w@juno.com>
- 30) [31441] Re: Fireball L.P.F.
by Ed Loranger <we6w@juno.com>
- 31) [31442] WS4S Fox Log 1-28-99 *preliminary*
by Conard Murray <WS4S@InfoAve.Net>
- 32) [31443] NC20's here in Sonoma, thanks Jim!
by WD6BOR@aol.com
- 33) [31444] Re: oops...forgot one
by ka1iic <ka1iic@ime.net>
- 34) [31445] CONDUCTIVE PEN.
by Niels Jensen Kristjansson <nkristja@cadvision.com>
- 35) [31446] Bias circuit and oscillator waveform (too long?)
by Jeff Furman <jfurman@ocs.net>
- 36) [31447] Re: Replacing ZM-1 tuning cap
by FaithD@mail01.dnr.state.wi.us
- 37) [31448] Re: IC-730 WARC; TS-50 QRP mod.
by mwattcpa@earthlink.net (Marty Watt)
- 38) [31449] answered the question and thanks
by Scott Howell <showell@hq.nasa.gov>
- 39) [31450] Any relayless QSK rigs out there?
by Neil Klagge <w0yse@juno.com>
- 40) [31451] Announcing the Milliwatt WAS contest
by Jim <kj5tf@madisoncounty.net>
- 41) [31452] Re: Various issues
by Brett Gazdzinski <Brett.Gazdzinski@mci.com>
- 42) [31453] H-brewing
by ntan <ntan@crosslink.net>
- 43) [31454] Re: Any relayless QSK rigs out there?

by Hank Kohl K8DD <k8dd@contesting.com>
44) [31455] Re: QRP Frequency at 9 to 11 PM (Was RE: New subscriber, info wanted...)
by Brett Gazdzinski <Brett.Gazdzinski@mci.com>
45) [31456] FYBO Op
by Bruce Grubbs <bog@flagstaff.az.us>
46) [31457] Re: [ham-hist] Re: [LowPowerDX] oops...forgot one
by "George T. Baker" <w5yr@swbell.net>
47) [31458] PSK31
by John R Kirby <n3aaz-qrp@juno.com>
48) [31459] Re: answered the question and thanks
by "George T. Baker" <w5yr@swbell.net>
49) [31460] ISUARC Project 2
by "Todd Carpenter" <carpentt@citrine.indstate.edu>
50) [31461] Re: [Heroes/Who's Who....Honor List (long)]
by Roy Lincoln <wa4dou@usa.net>
51) [31462] surprise in mailbox
by Dick Schneider <rschneid@ix.netcom.com>
52) [31463] Re: [Re: Y2K: critical role for QRP]
by Roy Lincoln <wa4dou@usa.net>
53) [31464] Re: ISUARC Project 2
by Niel Skousen <skousen@srv.net>
54) [31465] Breadboard Book
by "Francis Callahan" <colcal@srv.net>
55) [31466] K2 Mania! NC-20's! Where to park?
by Ed Loranger <we6w@juno.com>
56) [31467] NOT FS: Icom IC-751A
by Hank Kohl K8DD <k8dd@contesting.com>
57) [31468] NC20 fever
by Chuck Adams <adams@ticnet.com>
58) [31469] WHO'S WHO
by "Richard Brummer" <obvious@bestweb.net>
59) [31470] ZM1 / ZM2 Polycap Replacement
by Bruce Hopkins - KL7H <kl7h@eagle.ptialaska.net>
60) [31471] Re: [Re: Fw: [Re: 13 wpm code exam]]
by Roy Lincoln <wa4dou@usa.net>
61) [31472] Re: ISUARC Project 2
by Ed Loranger <we6w@juno.com>
62) [31473] Re: FYBO Op (Location info)
by Joe Gervais <vole@primenet.com>
63) [31474] qrp repair
by "David Elmore" <rdelmore@email.msn.com>
64) [31475] Re: Any relayless QSK rigs out there?
by "Eric Swartz - Elecraft, WA6HHQ" <erics@elecraft.com>
65) [31476] Re: [qrp repair]
by Roy Lincoln <wa4dou@usa.net>
66) [31477] Re: Any relayless QSK rigs out there?
by "Eric Swartz - Elecraft, WA6HHQ" <erics@elecraft.com>

- 67) [31478] Re: qrp repair
by Russ Hines <radioruss@fuse.net>
- 68) [31479] REFLECTIONS
by "Richard Brummer" <obvious@bestweb.net>
- 69) [31480] Soldering coax connectors
by "Stephen Gibson" <SWGibson@worldnet.att.net>
- 70) [31481] Re: Any relayless QSK rigs out there?
by Hank Kohl K8DD <k8dd@contesting.com>
- 71) [31482] Re: [Heroes/Who's Who....Honor List (long)]
by Bob Patten <n4bp@bc.seflin.org>
- 72) [31483] Re: Soldering coax connectors
by Nick & Susan Caruso <nzc@mediaone.net>
- 73) [31484] Re: Soldering coax connectors
by James Skalski <jskalski@buffnet.net>
- 74) [31485] Re: [Soldering coax connectors]
by Roy Lincoln <wa4dou@usa.net>
- 75) [31486] Re: [Re: Soldering coax connectors]
by Roy Lincoln <wa4dou@usa.net>
- 76) [31487] K2 in Montana!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
by Roy <marion@montana.com>
- 77) [31488] Preventative Maintenance to your Power Sources and Rig Cables
by Sam Billingsley <SBillingsley@usaninc.com>
- 78) [31489] Field test of K2/SSB option anybody?
by Arjen Raateland <Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi>
- 79) [31490] Re: K2 in Montana!
by Joe Gervais <vole@primenet.com>
- 80) [31491] Re: Soldering coax connectors
by Gary L Surrency <gsurrency@juno.com>
- 81) [31492] Some babblings on 1/3-Century and counting...
by wb2vuo@juno.com
- 82) [31493] Re: Soldering Coax Connectors
by wb2vuo@juno.com
- 83) [31494] FS: club release Norcal 40A for sale
by "John A. Evans - N0HJ" <jaevals@codenet.net>
- 84) [31495] Re: Soldering coax connectors
by DSJKALLEN@aol.com
- 85) [31496] mW WAS contest - RULES ? + free QRP tricks
by Jim <kj5tf@madisoncounty.net>
- 86) [31497] Panel Labels
by "Marshall Emm" <mgemm@mtechnologies.com>
- 87) [31498] MY NC20, IT'S HERE, IT'S HERE!!!!
by J38AL@aol.com
- 88) [31499] Re: Soldering coax connectors
by Brett Gazdzinski <Brett.Gazdzinski@mci.com>

Date: Fri, 29 Jan 1999 16:26:50 -0800 (PST)

From: Jeff <fantbb@yahoo.com>
To: qrp qrp <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [31412] FYBO on Brannan Island
Message-ID: <19990130002650.23949.rocketmail@send104.yahoomail.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

For those of you who read my account of the great battle of Brannan Island there will be another assault once again. Yes Denis (K06GF) and I (AB6MB) shall be out there in his heavily armoured VW van. So if you are in the area drop by!

Denis and I will be trying to keep from losing weight during this grueling ordeal. We intend to eat well, drink well and well operate well. We know it will be hard to keep our cold fingers and ears sharp during FYBO but we shall try mightly! We have one worry and one worry only. How to keep our feets warm during those Californian frosty winters. We are fearing tempatures that might plunge into the 50's! We know the risks is great but so are the rewards(?).

See ya in the contest!

Expedition Jeff

Brannan Island is over the Antioch, Ca bridge by about 5 miles. Turn right at the Brannan Island sign, pay the entrance fee of \$5 or thereabouts and come join us.

==

Jeff Jones
AB6MB
NorCal QRP Club #65, QRP-L #1780
CW Forever!!!
Ghost Hunter
Owner of the Delta MudCats fantasy baseball team
Long live Manchester United and the Oakland A's!!!!!!

DO YOU YAHOO!?

Get your free @yahoo.com address at <http://mail.yahoo.com>

Date: Fri, 29 Jan 1999 17:29:30 -0700 (MST)
From: Joe Gervais <vole@primenet.com>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [31413] FYBO: Palo Alto Multi-Op Challenge!
Message-ID: <199901300029.RAA11116@usr01.primenet.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Howdy Folks,

Andreas (N6NU) and the PALO ALTO Club QRPers are
sponsoring yet another Multi-Op challenge . Shoot,
ya can't lose! :-)

Andreas (N6NU) wrote:

>
> Joe -
>
> the FYBO team of the PALO ALTO Club PAARA, W6OTX will donate a box of
> California Sun Dried Raisins for every Member of the FYBO Multiop team
> with the least points!

Thanks Andreas! FYBO is now a veritable cornucopia (sp?)
of winnings. :)

Maybe all your Multi-Ops can get together after it's
all over and have some bizarre Soup-and-Raisin
banquet. :)

Cheers de AB7TT,

-Joe, vole@primenet.com, AZ ScQRPions (Phoenix)

"It's hard to be unhappy when you have warm feet."
- Dave, Fellow Snow Camper

FYBO Winter QRP Field Day - Feb 6th - See <www.extremezone.com/~ki7mn>

Date: Fri, 29 Jan 1999 19:36:07 -0500
From: "Tim Cook" <timcook@erinet.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>, "[Ten Tec] -

Reflector" <tentec@contesting.com>
Subject: [31414] FS: Ten Tec 40M QRP 1340
Message-ID: <015401be4be8\$89814980\$f2755acf@timcook.erinet.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

FS: Excellent condition 40m qrp rig, Ten Tec Model 1340. Looks and works good, complete with manual. Also has a 10 turn pot installed. \$75 plus shipping. Please email direct if you are interested.

thanks
Tim
NZ8J

Date: Fri, 29 Jan 1999 19:58:54 EST
From: BSouteng@aol.com
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [31415] BSouteng@aol.com, KD5FTZ, POSTPONE
Message-ID: <5ab3e587.36b2594e@aol.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gentlemen,

POSTPONE, KD5FTZ, BSouteng@aol.com

Thanks,

Bob, KD5FTZ

Date: Fri, 29 Jan 1999 20:15:45 EST
From: SKIPNC90@aol.com
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [31416] FS: NorCal Cascade Kit
Message-ID: <206f857a.36b25d41@aol.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have an unbuilt Norcal CASCADE kit with a copy of the manual (didn't get one from the person I bought it from). This is an extra kit that I was going to put on 40/17 meters. Price is \$200 shipped to US. If interested please email direct off list.

73, Skip Davis NC90
skipnc90@aol.com
940 Parkview Lane
Des Plaines, IL. 60016-6743

Date: Fri, 29 Jan 1999 20:08:24 EST
From: SKIPNC90@aol.com
To: fantbb@yahoo.com, qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [31417] Re: FYBO on Brannan Island
Message-ID: <378db70f.36b25b88@aol.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 99-01-29 19:55:48 EST, fantbb@yahoo.com writes:

<< We are fearing tempatures that might plunge into the 50's! We know the risks is great but so are the rewards(?).
>>

Sounds like motorcycle weather (I just picked up the current plate sticker for mine) to me.

73, Skip NC90

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 01:28:49 +0000
From: Peter Larsen <larsenp@cadvision.com>
To: whowell@hq.nasa.gov
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [31418] Re: silly question
Message-ID: <36B26051.A2F8BFFB@cadvision.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi: This may have been answered already but...

7.000 to 7.025 extra CW

7.025 to 7.100 DX SSB window and gen/adv CW

7.100 to 7.150 nov/tech et al CW only

7.150 to 7.225 adv/extra SSB

7.225 to 7.300 gen SSB

I hope this helps.

BTW 7.000 to 7.300 VEs have all modes except FM allowed.

--

73 es have fun

Peter

VE6YC D021wc

Drinking and calculus don't mix. Never drink and derive!!

Date: Fri, 29 Jan 1999 20:32:31 EST

From: K4NK@aol.com

To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU

Subject: [31419] More F.S.

Message-ID: <60897b0e.36b2612f@aol.com>

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII

Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Fellow QRPers;

I have found a few more items out in the barn. I have 4..Polyphaser lightning arresters. Those of you in the know the brand will know of their quality. I won't list the models here but if your interested E-mail me and I will fill you in. These are brand new units. I also have some 50 ohm 6dB pads. These are very small and have bnc connectors on the ends..OK...the poly's are \$27 shipped ea. and the pad's \$12.

I'm real close to a new K2 , just a few more bucks and

73 Les K4NK

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 01:40:43 +0000

From: Peter Larsen <larsenp@cadvision.com>

To: ccart@dns.vidtel.com

Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [31420] Re: FYBO Question
Message-ID: <36B2631B.617D4B6B@cadvision.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

On Thu, 28 Jan 1999, Joe Gervais wrote:

> Report your *current* temperature at your operating
> position (in Fahrenheit if at all possible please!).

Here is a good trivia question for you.

What is the only other country in the world that still uses
Fahrenheit?

I don't remember Fahrenheit at all any more so I am just Centigrade.

--

73 es have fun
Peter
VE6YC D021wc

Drinking and calculus don't mix. Never drink and derive!!

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 01:40:52 +0000
From: Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [31421] IC-730 WARC; TS-50 QRP mod.
Message-ID: <36B26324.472D@qsl.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Low power enthusiasts:

(Please respond to we6w@juno.com if you do reply, I'll
be able to use the weekend to read more fully.)

Two questions maybe someone can help me with:
How does one activate WARC band transmit on

the ICOM 730? (This is FYI for the rig owner.)

Also, what method is used to drop the TS-50 rig
down to QRP levels?

I'd also like to thank all who offered information and
advice regarding the QRP operation of the IC-730 rig.
So many responses were received that I must say
"Thanks" on qrp-l.

Cordially,
Ed/WE6W

--

-Ed AR QRP Millennium QSO's=224/2000
72, Ed WE6W, A-1 OP; <http://www.qsl.net/we6w> Santa Rosa, CA
QRP-Z#106 QRP-L#1068 AR#112 NC#2227 ARCI#9397 QAA#006

Date: Fri, 29 Jan 1999 19:51:18 -0600 (CST)
From: Bruce Rattray <rattray@gpfn.sk.ca>
To: QRP-Canada <qrp-canada@lists.gpfn.sk.ca>, Low Power Group <qrp-l@LeHigh.EDU>
Subject: [31422] FOX: Team scores (fwd)
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.95.990129194713.27133A-100000@neale.gpfn.sk.ca>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

.....ooooppss....made a typo...sri...I should have typed K7GT
under the Brass Pounders instead of what I did type.....72 - Bruce

...NOUR - fox hunt #27...

The 40 mtr Fox Hunt Team Scores

...the Houston Hounds- 19.150 - hounds-> K5ZTY,W5SB,KK5LD

...the Vibro-Fox Finders - 16.600 - hounds -> WE6W,KU7Y,K2VCO,WS8D

...the Underdogs - 16.576 - hounds -> N4R0A,AB7CE,KI0II"CLEAN SWEEP!"

...the Texas Tarantulas-15.500-hounds->AB5WX,K5LN,N5TW,W5HNS"CLEAN SWEEP!"

...the Fox Nabbers - 15.065 - hounds -> K0EVZ, W0CH

...the Brass Pounders - 13.250 - hounds -> AB8DF,N1FN,K7GT

...the Northern Lights-11.566-hounds->VE7CQK,VE6EWM,VE3FAL,VE5RC,VE2KN

...the Kentucky Porch Houndz - 9.000 - nashing teeth..

...the Swords - 7.659 - hounds -> N8VAR,N8IE

...the Team Apathy - 5.328 - hound -> AB7TT

...the Jersey Diddles - 2.991 - hound -> N2T0 <- way to go Joe!

Date: Fri, 29 Jan 1999 17:49:39 -0800
From: David Shalita <af389@lafn.org>
To: "qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [31423] Re: bench signal generator
Message-ID: <36B26533.1C3DDF7@lafn.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

"Mike Czuhajewski" <wa8mcq@erols.com> wrote:

> I'll second the vote for the S&S Engineering digital VF0. It's a bit pricey
> at \$169 for the kit but has impressive specs. And it does have a nice user
> interface. I

Another feature I would like to see for the
bench signal generator is a SWEEP mode with
reasonably constant amplitude over the frequency range.

73, W6MIK

--

David Shalita (Dave)
af389@lafn.org
Van Nuys, CA

Date: 29 Jan 99 20:55:45 EST
From: Roy Lincoln <wa4dou@usa.net>
To: owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [31424] Re: [Re: Indoor Antennas]
Message-ID: <19990130015546.1429.qmail@www08.netaddress.usa.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Chris,

Actually clandestine outdoor antennas will probably work better. Think of rain gutters and end fed small gauge wires, and buried coax to nearby woods or fields to antennas, etc. I've used them all and they definitely beat my few experiences with indoor antennas. 73 es Good Luck! Roy

WA4DOU-----

I suspect a lot of these no-antenna rules mean they don't want to *see* any antennas. If you have an outdoor antenna that no one notices, I don't think they actually have a religious objection to antennas. There are lots of strategies to make them 99% invisible.

Christopher Brewster, KC0EVQ
brewsq@excite.com 612/475-0477
Plymouth, Minnesota

Thom Durfee wrote:

> Egads! I just signed a lease for a new apartment and they won't let me
> have any outside antennas. Actually I knew that in advance and as my
> main hobby is RC Airplanes it is really no big deal.
>
> My apartment building is all wood and I am on the middle floor of 3.
> QRP is definitely the way to go to keep peace with the neighbors.
>
> I am looking for designs and opinions on effective indoor antennas. My
> primary bands are 40-10 meters.

Get your free, private email at <http://mail.excite.com/>

Get free e-mail and a permanent address at <http://www.netaddress.com/?N=1>

Date: Fri, 29 Jan 1999 21:01:49 -0500 (EST)
From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
To: QRP-L List <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [31425] signal generator update
Message-ID: <Pine.GS0.3.96.990129204155.13836K-100000@larry.cas.utk.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I have compiled a list of specs/desires/challenges gleaned from mail sent to me about the synthesized generator idea. Thought I'd pass it along in case anyone is thinking of modifying the SS unit or developing their own.

1. Be careful of AC pick-up in the synthesizer.

2. Resolution to at least 10 Hz is very desirable. (1 Hz desirable.)
3. Frequency span from 100 Hz/kHz (?) to 30 + MHz necessary, and to above 45 MHz desirable.
4. Harmonic filtering of the output desirable, possibly requiring a band switch at least to change output filters.
5. Output level requires an excellent attenuator system for assured signal levels for test/alignment purposes.
6. Rugged construction, but smaller size (perhaps K-2 or similar size to the flat case 2 MHz waveform generators).
7. Absolute stability--and accuracy of the readout to a known standard.

Tuning preferences seem split between a knob (optical) and keyboard. (Both?) Output level measurement has been mentioned, but no mention of analog or LCD preference.

Signal purity, stability, and accuracy seem to be the desired prime ingredients, with ease of setting and control of the output level as the next most mentioned ingredients. Rack panel sizing seems distinctly unfavored. Also unfavored is Tucker-level pricing, although bringing in such an instrument in kit form for under \$200 seems unlikely--since it will be a reasonably precision instrument and deserves a durable construction method and casing. However, it may be classed as a very long-term investment and may warrant some extra front-end \$.

Now I wonder if 1999 will not be the year that the generator emerges--and if it does, I'll almost bet that it comes from more than one source and with variations that cause us to wonder which one to invest in. Having used most types of generators at one time or another ranging from GDOs (called Giggling Dancing Oscillators [or worse] when I was in the service) to an HP, I can assure those who have not used a very stable one of the speed and confidence they add to a large variety of test and alignment tasks. (The "dancing" part of the GDO is easy to figure, but they also could be modulated by running a finger nail across the wood grain of the table top on which they sat--in an AM receiver, not unlike a giggle, gurgle, or similar sounds.)

-73-

LB, W4RNL

Date: Fri, 29 Jan 1999 21:05 -0500 (EST)
From: Brett Gazdzinski <Brett.Gazdzinski@mci.com>
To: Robert Parks <rob3ert@vegas.infi.net>, qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [31426] Re: Various issues
Message-ID: <19990130020810.IXEP5654@localHost>

Bob,
I don't mean to dog anyone, and as usual, I probably put my foot in my mouth, as I have not gotten any of them yet, but some of the prices seem good...
The Oak Hills OH500 looks a little high at \$340 for 5 bands, and the Sierra is \$200 without any band mods, keyer or display. The emtech is \$85.00...\$55 at Dans!, and some of the other kits are around \$100.
I've seen the pictures of the insides of the Sierra, and there does not seem to be lots and lots of stuff in there...
The norcal 40 a seems to have more inside it than the sierra....
A fully loaded sierra goes for about \$350 with 3 bands and the display/keyer.....
Am I missing something? Is there that much difference between the..
sw40.....\$55
NW80-20.....\$55
OH 100a.....\$120
emtech(nw 80-20?)...\$85...\$115 with fancy cabinet
sierra.....\$245 to \$500+ loaded!

I must admit, the sierra sure looks nice, but low output power, limited frequency coverage, and hi price make me wonder whats up with it.
I paid \$700 for my icom 735 NEW!

I know some other kits are much more complex and expensive, and I don't have a problem with the k2...its only \$45 more than the sierra....

I still think I am missing something.....

Brett
N2DTS

Date: Fri, 29 Jan 1999 20:30:32 -0600
From: crc <crc@io.com>
To: alfa33@scn.org, QRPL <QRP-L@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [31427] Re: UPS
Message-ID: <36B26EC8.90D3664D@io.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gang: I was a driver for UPS for while, tough job but good money. What I do now to be sure my packages arrive is box the box in a larger box so it is light for it's size and in large enough to be in the way in the back of the truck, Large pkgs often wind up on the floor and drivers want them out of the way so tend to remember to deliver them , often early. And I write the address large in waterproof marker on the cardboard , not a glued/taped on piece of paper, and for good measure put the address on the inner box too . Also be sure you donot exceed the height/diameter limits. I have seen a pkg from California arrive in Texas, some smart a** decides to measure it and it was oversize and sent all the way back to sender.
Charlie WA5KRF Austin, Texas

Date: Fri, 29 Jan 1999 19:45:26 -0700
From: Roy <marion@montana.com>
To: Brett.Gazdzinski@mci.com
Cc: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [31428] Re: Various issues
Message-ID: <199901300247.TAA18572@mail.montana.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

>I must admit, the sierra sure looks nice, but low output power, limited db
>frequency coverage, and hi price make me wonder whats up with it.
>I paid \$700 for my icom 735 NEW!
>

>I still think I am missing something.....

>

>Brett

>N2DTS

> If you are a cw fan, you might see something in the Sierra you would like. Mine does not have low power, Full five watts 160 to 20mtrs, 4wattson 15mtrs, 3watts on 12 and 10 mtrs. I have never needed more from it. It covers 150kc of each band. I own at present a Kenwood TS440, and an Icom 706mk2; the Sierra easily out performs both of them on CW. As it should.

Its optimized for CW. My K2 was mailed on Wensday, I'm anxiously waiting for it. But I will not get rid of my Sierra. Of all the rigs have built(lots!) and all the rigs I have bought, I have had the most fun with the Sierra. The K2 will out perform it, as it should. And I expect to have a blast with it. I am certain the IC735 of yours is an excellent rig. But I would not trade my Sierra for it. 72/73 Roy AB7CE, waiting for the mule train with my K2 to get here in Montana :)

Date: Fri, 29 Jan 1999 21:58 -0500 (EST)
From: Brett Gazdzinski <Brett.Gazdzinski@mci.com>
To: Roy <marion@montana.com>, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [31429] Re: Various issues
Message-ID: <19990130030125.KVGF1406@localHost>

Roy,
Wow! What an endorsement.
I will start saving for a sierra as soon as I recover from the emtech.
I was looking at the specs on the web page where they list the power out at 2 to 3 watts....did you have to do anything to it to get it to 5 watts out or did it just work that way?
I sure do like the looks of it....

Thanks for the info.

Brett
N2DTS

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 03:14:28 GMT
From: mwattcpa@earthlink.net (Marty Watt)
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [31430] Re: Various issues
Message-ID: <36b47262.78832594@mail.earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

On Fri, 29 Jan 1999 21:05 -0500 (EST), Brett Gazdzinski
<Brett.Gazdzinski@mci.com> wrote:

>I must admit, the sierra sure looks nice, but low output power, limited
>frequency coverage, and hi price make me wonder whats up with it.

>I paid \$700 for my icom 735 NEW!

But what does the icom draw on receive? The sierra, at slightly over a pound, draws 35ma. K2 draws 200ma on receive. Icom (I'd imagine) draws about an amp. For backpackers and battery addicts, the Sierra is superb. Plus, most of us here (about 80% or more) are CW addicts, and the QSK on the Sierra is unrivaled. I expect K2 performance to be similar.

Output doesn't matter. The difference between 2w and 5w is negligible. As to cost, have you tried having circuit boards done? Priced crystals lately? Toroid cores aren't cheap. Neither is silk-screening the front/rear panels, or custom-building the case. The tuning pot alone is a \$7 part I'd imagine. Besides, I'd put the receiver in the Sierra up against the Icom any day. I'm not saying there is no profit, but I challenge you to take the Sierra price list and purchase the parts as specified for less than 75% of the asking price of the kit. I don't think 25% is too extravagant a gross margin for someone to ask -- once other costs are factored in, you make probably a 10% profit for yourself.

After all, if it takes an hour to package a kit, and you pay yourself \$20= per hour (not much in some parts of the US!), plus try to cover your R&D time= (say \$5 per hour), that's 12 % of the asking price of the base kit.

>I know some other kits are much more complex and expensive, and I don't
>have a problem with the k2...its only \$45 more than the sierra....
>
>I still think I am missing something.....

Yep. Mass production. <grin>

I imagine the main difference is that the K2 is computer controlled (synthesized), while the Sierra isn't. I wouldn't bet on it, but my guess would be that synthesized is easier and cheaper than the =

transistor/modular

format. Plus, you have probably missed the predecessor to the Sierra. I began lusting after a multi-band QRP rig when Wayne published the Safari design in QEX back in the late 80s. The Sierra design was the second = (and much more reliable) generation design. One of the cleanest rigs around, particularly when you factor the instability of some "manufactured" rigs = when you try to lower the power.

But, hey. You don't have to buy a Sierra! Others have been snapped up = in (literally) minutes on here for \$400 (with several band modules). But = you sound like you question the sanity of anyone who would pay that much, and frankly, you haven't been around long enough to appreciate the artistry = of the Sierra! No insult intended -- but the Sierra is a beautiful piece of = work, inside and out. Most of us have built a few kits. I've built one or = two. =46or example the non-profit NorCal 38 special. It was \$35 to purchase, = but by the time you added off-board parts, modifications for power oomfph, = chassis, jacks, knobs, etc., one had \$50-75 invested in the thing. Easy. And = that rig covered 25kHz of 30m (not the whole band). It used an NE602 based design= that I learned a lot in building, expecially in how it used the NE602 in = recieve and transmit chains.

Sure, I've got the TS-50 sitting here as well. Different radio, = different purpose in my book. Field activities demand the Sierra for me. I like running a weekend on an 8 aH battery! Much easier on the body than = carrying a generator or marine (100+ AH) battery to run a contest on an Icom.

Hang around a bit longer, and you'll begin to see how different pieces of equipment have different purposes, and are optimized for different uses.

Date: Fri, 29 Jan 1999 22:17:58 -0500
From: "Thaire Bryant" <tbry37@ici.net>

To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [31431] wanted...HW-9
Message-ID: <199901300309.WAA24125@bajor.ici.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Folks,

I'm looking for an HW-9, w/o WARC bands installed.

Thaire W2APF

Date: Fri, 29 Jan 1999 21:42:20 -0600
From: mjfitz@uswest.net
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [31432] JUNK BOX REGEN MODS
Message-ID: <36B27F9C.C1861B2D@pop.omah.uswest.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Builders,

That "Junk Box Special" regen you built from the article in "QEX" can be made even better with two substitutions, both of which come from the original author, Charles Kitchin, N1TEV. First, replace the 5 V zener with a 6.8 V type(1N4736A) and secondly, replace the "choke" made using the transformer primary with a simple 5.6K ohm resistor. I think you will find, as I have, that the audio is even better and the critical point is broader when you go tuning for the sweet spot.

BTW, I often listen to the 75 M. CW band with mine later on at night. With a suitable audio filter and a one or two bottle transmitter a guy could have a rig just like grandpa, only better...'cause you got FET's and audio-amp chips!

Mike KI0AF Mo. Valley, IA

Date: Fri, 29 Jan 1999 22:39:57 -0600
From: Jay Bromley <w5jay@alltel.net>

To: ki6ds@dpol.k12.ca.us, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [31433] Re: Ft. Smith, AR Hamfest
Message-ID: <36B28D1D.6471AC6A@alltel.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gang,

Again NorCal and Doug came through by donating a NC-20 to be given away at the Fort Smith hamfest. Looks like NorCal is donating NC-20 to a lot of hamfest events this year. Doug and the volunteers did a great job on the NC-20! The NC-20 is such a neat rig and there seems to be a lot of people wishing they had bought one. I can't wait to get mine in the mail. Come on over Clifton, AB5UA, you still have a chance to win a NC-20. Hope to see you and other fox hunters in the Fort.

Doug we can't wait to get you in the Razorback state. Our Seafood is not as good like on the coast but, we have some pretty good steak houses. Gee, maybe that's why they call it Hell on the Border. We'll do everything we can to accommodate, we wouldn't want you to go back to the west coast thin and puny.

73 de w5jay

Check out the hamfest at <http://www.qsl.net/fsaarc/>

Date: Fri, 29 Jan 1999 21:01:34 -0800
From: "Radman" <radman@best.com>
To: <we6w@qsl.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Cc: <we6w@juno.com>
Subject: [31434] Re: IC-730 WARC; TS-50 QRP mod.
Message-ID: <199901300459.UAA16390@proxy3.ba.best.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Ed et al,

You'll want to read, "Honey I Shrunk the Rig," by Bob Gobrick WA6ERB. That will take care of your QRP "mod" for the TS-50. It's really just a screwdriver adjustment -- under the hood. A couple of things to be aware of: the low power level in the TS-50 menu will display "10W" or "Low" -- even though the RF out is 5W. And, some of the Kenwood

ATUs will *not* activate at the 5W RF output level. You may need to "bump the RF power up" to activate the ATU then throttle the rig back down to QRP after tuning. It's easy to do once you get the hang of it. Obviously, with a manual antenna tuner this will be a non-issue. It's been a little while since I've used my TS-50... so I'm working from memory :-)

URL: <http://www.homeusers.prestel.co.uk/g3ycc/ts50.htm>

Sorry I don't have anything on the IC-730 WARC mod. You might have to call Icom support to get that one :-)

Best....GL es 72 - Conrad -- NN6CW

>>Also, what method is used to drop the TS-50 rig down to QRP levels?

Cordially,
Ed/WE6W

Date: Fri, 29 Jan 1999 23:57:39 -0500
From: Hank Kohl K8DD <k8dd@contesting.com>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [31435] FS: Icom IC-751A
Message-ID: <4.1.19990129235358.00a765f0@192.0.0.1>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

For sale - Icom IC-751A Pair of 500 hz filters and narrow RTTY filter.
Relatively clean - works great. \$600 - offers accepted.

73 Hank K8DD

Date: Fri, 29 Jan 1999 21:08:19 -0800
From: dave_epps@juno.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [31436] Fireball L.P.F.
Message-ID: <19990129.210819.-108695.0.dave_epps@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

On the FB-10 I removed 1 turn from both toroids. Now 8 turns.
With 100 pf on input and output and 200 pf at the center of the LPF
the output quadrupled to 20 mw. Using the mfg analyzer on the output
it dips at 30 mhz. I'm not sure just where it should be resonant. I will
have to get the books out on LPF's.
The osc module shows 40 mw on my wattmeter.
>From this tinkerer's viewpoint it looks like adjusting the values on the
L.PF on the Fireball's will increase the power on the units that have
low output.
dave ab5pc fresno, ca.

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or call Juno at (800) 654-JUNO [654-5866]

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 16:12:57 +1100
From: "Graeme Zimmer" <gzimmer@vic.bigpond.net.au>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [31437] Rotary Encoders
Message-ID: <010701be4c0f\$33e7c400\$ee12c018@c3.telstramm.net.au>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> Rotary encoders are EXPENSIVE...anyone know of
>> a cheap, reliable source?

Bourns has an interesting range of low cost encoders

I buy mine from Farnell at <http://www.farnell.com/>

They cost as little as A\$3.18 in small quantities

My favorite is Farnell part no. 109-111 at A\$10.20

(is Bourns part no. ECW0J-B24-AC0006)

Bourns info is at <http://www.bourns.com>

they even have some discounted encoders at

<http://www.bourns.com/html/bbb.htm#ENCODERS>

73 Zim VK3GJZ

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 00:48:42 EST
From: N7YA@aol.com
To: lowpowerdx@egroups.com, ham-radio-history@egroups.com, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [31438] Heroes/Who's Who....Honor List (long)
Message-ID: <e33fbc0b.36b29d3a@aol.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

well gang, i asked for some reflections and opinions on who all of you thought was deserving of recognition in ham radio...and i was bombarded!!

many of the people im about to list have contributed in ways that are either huge and widely recognized, or small but still very important, i have also put a star next to the names of those who received more than one endorsement...so heres just a small list of the elmers, teachers, advocates, explorers and inventors that helped make ham radio what it is today....lets give them their due respect, and use them as an example for teaching our future hams.

Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW, founder of the ARRL
Sen. Barry Goldwater, K7UGA, strong ham advocate *****
Yagi Uda, Japanese ham pioneer
Arnie Coro, C02KK, hosts ham radio show on Radio Havana Cuba, avid ham
King Hussien, JY1, King of Jordan, avid operator in that country
W7ZOI
Lew McCoy, W1ICP, writer, antenna guru ****
Doug Demaw, W1FB, writer, elmer to many ****
Wayne Greene, W2NSD, editor
Derry Spittle, VE7QK, elmer, avid qrp op
Sam Barricklow, K5KJ, DXer, Skywarn brass, elmer
L B Cebik, W4RNL, program developer
Brian Beezly, K6STI, program developer
Roy Lewallen, W7EL, program developer
N4LNE, elmer
AJ4Y, elmer
Bill Orr, W6SAI, writer, antenna guru ***
Norcal QRP Club...nuff said!
AC6V, The webmaster of THE ham supersite!
Jim Reid, KH7M, propagation guru and nice guy
Bud, AC4MY, elmer for CW

K40J, president of Florida contest group
Frank Jones, pioneer **
Frank Lester, pioneer
Gunderson, W2JIO, blind ham elmer
Paul Godley, pioneer
Gus Browning, W4BPD, DX explorer **
Danny Weil, VP2VB, DX explorer **
Geoff Watts, SWL, creator of the IOTA program
Martti Laine, OH2BH, DX explorer
Dick Spencely, KV4AA, well known DXer
Don Wallace, W6AM, inventor, pioneer ***
Don Miller, W9WNV, DX explorer
Ted McElroy, pioneer, holder of CW land speed record on straight key
Bill Haligan, manufacturer
Faust Gonset, manufacturer
Clinton DeSoto, historian
Ed Raser, historian
Bruce Kelly, historian
Louise Moureau, historian
Stu Perry, low band pioneer
Harry Lord, ham hero
Arthur Godfrey, K4LIB, entertainer, voice on first ARRL promo films **
Jean Shepard, K2ORS, screenwriter, actor, broadcaster **
George Lamb, pioneer **
Andy Devine, entertainer **
Walter Kronkite, W2GSD, broadcaster
Alvino Rey, entertainer
Gen. Curtis Lemay
Butch Griswold
Bob Locher, W9KNI, writer, avid DXer
Joe Jeffries, WL7E, DXer, elmer
Ken Greene, KL7JAI, elmer
Alyssa, KB9THU, 9 yr old YL CW contester
Lloyd Colvin, W6KG, DX pioneer
Iris Colvin, DX pioneer
Bill Bennett, W7PHO, DXer, net control, founder of WWDXA **
Joe Arcure, W3HNK, qsl manager extraordinaire
Yuri Gagarin, cosmonaut, avid DXer
Jim Lamb, inventor
Joe Moskey, elmer
Byron Goodman, W1DX, ARRL writer ****

There are too many more to list...but this is just in response to my question. some of them i put there, but 99% of them you put on the list, i just posted it up.

some folks may or may not agree on some of the people on the list...but if its there, then somebody must have been affected by their accomplishments. i hope you enjoyed the thread and the list. Thanks to everyone for responding,

i enjoyed it....nice break from the bickering and heated debates.

73...Adam, N7YA

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 00:53:39 EST
From: N7YA@aol.com
To: lowpowerdx@egroups.com, ham-radio-history@egroups.com, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [31439] oops...forgot one
Message-ID: <f3bc23af.36b29e63@aol.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

oh yeah!! i forgot to mention Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH....the FCC ham tough guy! God Bless Riley!!!!

73...Adam, N7YA

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 01:01:13 EST
From: Ed Loranger <we6w@juno.com>
To: radman@best.com
Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [31440] Re: IC-730 WARC; TS-50 QRP mod.
Message-ID: <19990129.220126.4663.7.we6w@juno.com>

Thanks a lot. It is nice working together on these mods -- sure makes radio more fun and less chore.

I hear that the ALC mod can be accomplished on the TS-50 as well. I'll pass all the TS-50 info on to him and help where I can.

I'm building an Island keyer for a buddy tonight so maybe I'll give the K8FF paddles a twirl tomorrow.

Twirl? Hmmm, I'm losin' it. Next thing you know I'll be sewing a grass skirt for the paddles.....
72, Ed WE6W, AR Millennium QSO's=225/2000
<http://www.qsl.net/we6w> Radio, everyday in Santa Rosa, CA
QRP-L#1068 AR#112 QRP-Z#106 ARCI:9397 Norcal#2227 QAA#006

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Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 01:01:13 EST
From: Ed Loranger <we6w@juno.com>
To: dave_epps@juno.com
Cc: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [31441] Re: Fireball L.P.F.
Message-ID: <19990129.220126.4663.8.we6w@juno.com>

Very, very good show Dave!

72, Ed WE6W, AR Millennium QSO's=225/2000
<http://www.qsl.net/we6w> Radio, everyday in Santa Rosa, CA
QRP-L#1068 AR#112 QRP-Z#106 ARCI:9397 Norcal#2227 QAA#006

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or call Juno at (800) 654-JUNO [654-5866]

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 00:27:16 -0600
From: Conard Murray <WS4S@InfoAve.Net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [31442] WS4S Fox Log 1-28-99 *preliminary*
Message-ID: <3.0.3.32.19990130002716.015548f8@mail.infoave.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Hi Gang,
Boy, what a night! Conditions were not good at all. No really awesome signals... even from Texas!
I tried a new station layout with what I thought was a good arrangement, but I found out I wasn't as smart as I thought after I tied my arms in knots trying to fiddle with the RIT and write in the log at the same time. I started out on 7035 but moved up to 7043 after the first 30 minutes of the chase. There was some sort of rapid fading that liked to eat small parts of calls and especially QRP-L numbers. thanks for all the repeats. QRM wasn't too bad, but the band was sure noisier than it was Tuesday night. Thanks to everyone that hung in there with the QLF sending from the bug. I had forgotten how hard it is for me to copy at one speed and send at another with the bug. I gotta get another set of paddles for the solid-state stuff and leave the bug for the boatanchor rigs. Doing all this manually makes me really want one of the computer logging/sending packages too!

48 qsos
 15 Texans
 6 Michigan
 4 Arizona (go ScQRPions!)
 3 California
 100% top-notch operators!

0300	N3YSI	559	PA PAUL	1835
0304	N5JI	569	TX DICK	1054
0310	NQ7X	559	AZ FLOYD	343
0313	VE3JC	579	ON JOHN	744
0314	KU7Y	559	NV RON	17
0314	N5TW	579	TX TOM	1474
0316	K5LN	559	TX BILL	1794
0318	AF5Z	579	TX BOB	984
0319	K1MG	559	CA MIKE	614
0320	AB5WX	559	TX DAVE	1718
0322	AJ4Y	449	FL PAUL	1795
0323	W8SFF	559	MI STEVE	1288
0325	AA5TA	559	TX LARRY	1245
0327	KG2LO	559	NJ ROD	1445
0335	AC4HF	439	TN JEFF	98
0335	N0AR	559	MN SCOTT	1455
0336	W0RSP	579	SD ADE	661
0338	K8DD	559	MI HANK	246
0340	K8CV	559	MI WALT	935
0342	AK7Y	559	AZ GREG	1693
0343	W5TB	559	TX DOC	673
0345	KF4KSM	589	FL MAC	704
0345	K5ZTY	599	TX BILL	473 (best signal of anyone)
0346	KK5LD	559	TX DAN	5W
0349	W5HNS	569	TX HENRY	178
0350	N1TP	559	FL TOM	1317 (way down from his usual strong signal)
0351	K1CL	559	MA CHUCK	217
0352	W5SB	559	TX BILL	1279
0355	W5TA	559	TX DICK	1842
0356	K1QM	569	MA JOEL	337
0357	AB7TT	559	AZ JOE	191 (don't forget FYBO next weekend!)
0400	N1FN	559	CO MARSHALL	153
0402	WQ8RP	569	MI HANK	246
0403	AB5UA	539	OK CLIF	478
0404	K7TQ	449	ID RANDY	102
0406	KI7MN	449	AZ BOB	271
0408	KI0II	559	CO RON	928
0410	AB8DF	339	MI ED	1444
0416	WS8D	449	MI MIKE	1188
0417	AB0GO	339	CO DAVE	785

0420 WE6W 339 CA ED 1068 (real esp contact .. just a change in the
noise level)
0423 KF6CTA 439 CA DICK 951
0427 VE5RC 339 SK BRUCE 886 (another esp qso)
0434 KD5CMN 559 TX LARRY 89
0436 VE6EWM 239 AB EARL 1076 (thanks for hanging in there)
0443 K5OI 559 NM TIM 73
nothing heard after 0443Z

Thanks to Paul for keeping all this organized and to all the hunters who
seem to never tire of second-guessing where the fox will be listening next.
Rig was Kenwood TS-570D usually set for 200cps bandwidth. Antenna was a
trap vertical on ground with three radials for 40M.
73,
Conard, WS4S
Cookeville, TN

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 02:03:44 EST
From: WD6BOR@aol.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [31443] NC20's here in Sonoma, thanks Jim!
Message-ID: <980c4739.36b2aed0@aol.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Just a quick thank you to Jim Cates for sending me something by Priority Mail.
My package arrived here in Sonoma, CA, today, giving me something to read over
under the covers with a flashlight.

Jim Hill, K6UUW, and Ed Jacobson, AB6QL, received their NC20s Wednesday. I
confess to feeling just a little bit of NC20 envy, but I'm feeling much better
now, thank you.

That means there will be at least three Valley of the Moon ARC Norcal 20s
cooking here in Sonoma. Our annual hamfest is April 24 and we always operate a
demonstration QRP station that day. Perhaps we will have at least one NC20 on
the air by then.

Thanks again to all the good people who worked on this much anticipated
project.

72,
Darrel Jones, WD6BOR

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 02:25:34 -0800
From: kaliic <kaliic@ime.net>
To: N7YA@aol.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [31444] Re: oops...forgot one
Message-ID: <36B2DE1E.5321@ime.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

N7YA@aol.com wrote:

>
> oh yeah!! i forgot to mention Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH....the FCC ham tough
> guy! God Bless Riley!!!!
>
73...Adam, N7YA
And I second that...

God Bless Riley!!!!

73... Vince, KA1IIC

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 00:44:23 -0700
From: Niels Jensen Kristjansson <nkristja@cadvision.com>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [31445] CONDUCTIVE PEN.
Message-ID: <1.5.4.16.19990130013541.1ae7a2d6@cadvision.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Hi Gang,

Had to repair the mother in law TV remote, taking it apart I found the printed circuit board was exactly that ie. printed and no foil on it.

The sugary substance that had gotten in there had done a number on the print or the conductive silk screen. I bought one of those conductive pens, well it's the ink is the conductive part I guess, to repair the traces.

Has anyone had any experience with those pens or conductive paint ? I even tried soldering a wire to a "trace" I made on a piece of paper and it took quite nicely.

Perhaps share the reply with the group.

72 de Niels
VE6NJK/TF3NJ
D021

Calgary, Alberta

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 00:03:22 -0800 (PST)
From: Jeff Furman <jfurman@ocs.net>
To: af389@lafn.org
Cc: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [31446] Bias circuit and oscillator waveform (too long?)
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.04.9901292122400.29992-100000@ocs.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Dave, I will take a stab at the analysis of that bias network:
my first observation is the amplifier is operating in a linear mode, essential for SSB, but very wasteful for CW. The bias of the final stage uses T6 as a shunt regulator which is supposed to furnish a (temperature compensated) constant voltage to the final amplifier bases. The temperature compensation is required since the V_{be} of the final transistors decreases at about 2.2 mV per degree C temperature increase at the transistor junction. This seems to be a small variation, except for the possibility of ambient temperature variations of a range of as much as 0 (FYBO temps) to say, 55 (June field day in the sun). That 55 degree range by itself gives a voltage range of about 0.121V. The bias design probably intends the final standing or quiescent current to be constant regardless of temperature. If the base bias voltage were truly constant, then that V_{be} variation over the temperature range would show up entirely across the finals' emitter resistors, which are 0.5 ohms, producing a bias current variation over temperature of about 0.24 A. per transistor, or 0.48 A for both transistors in the final. The result is about 5.76 W. more dissipation (at 12V.) on the hottest day than the coldest day, not desirable. The temperature compensation works like this-- the transistor T6 is intimately thermally coupled to the output

transistors so that its junction temperature tracks the output transistors' junction temperatures as well as possible. T6 is wired as a forward biased diode. This diode should be selected carefully to satisfy the compensation requirements and mechanical requirements. The current through this diode is likely less than the current in the final transistors it controls. This means that its V_d (it's a diode) will be different than the V_{be} of the final transistors, unless the junction properties are right. The arcana of doping levels, etc. is for someone else to address. Briefly, the junction current density needs to be properly related to the final transistors' currents to get the thermal compensation

(voltage variation with temperature) right, that is, about 2.2 mV voltage decrease per

degree temperature increase. So the size of the compensating device and its fabrication is important. It is my guess that this device is PNP in part because it can be attached directly to a grounded heatsink without any insulators, when the collector is grounded. The device does not need to have any high voltage or high frequency capability, since it is used for the bias network. A waste of money would put a final-capable transistor here. I have seen this bias scheme in amplifiers designed by the late Mr. Helge O. Granberg for Motorola. These amplifiers are described in Motorola application notes, and, I think, a QST article (when?) I cringe when I see this scheme, however, I must accept its success. I know that I don't know sufficient detail to deal with the selection process for good compensation. Hopefully this gives you some insight into the circuit operation. T2 is purely a switch to shut off the bias during standby or receive.

The second topic of oscillator waveform is very interesting. Oscillator simulations using spice transient response are instructive and eventually, intuitive. An oscillator without some kind of amplitude control loop usually builds up amplitude until some physical limitation gets in the way. Transistor saturation or cutoff severely changes the way an 'amplifier' works at certain points in the oscillator cycle, as an example. Another is the highly nonlinear input characteristics of a junction transistor under large signal situations.

This often looks like asymmetrical clipping on one or both (positive and/or negative) peaks as a very repeatable (cycle to cycle), constant distortion.

This is the steady state waveform, after enough cycles have occurred. The source of the harmonic content of oscillator output is (hedging,) mostly from this effect.

An interesting possibility is the oscillator actually oscillating at another, much lower, frequency simultaneously. The two frequencies are not harmonically related; they are orders of magnitude different frequency. The lower frequency is often a sawtooth or maybe a trapezoid waveform impressed on the carrier. This is caused by a nonlinearity such as base rectification of the 'carrier' to cause a nonlinear blocking oscillation usually determined by (lucky or unlucky

values of) r-c time constants in coupling and bias networks. This is the operating principle of the single tube superregenerative receiver (now revived in solid state in garage door openers and car alarms,etc.) The Official name for this effect is oscillator 'squegging', and, yes, it has a not too bizarre AM effect on the fundamental oscillation. You can easily anticipate the broad spectrum of such an oscillator. An oscillator with an explicit rather than implicit AGC loop can have similar operation if the AGC loop stability is wanting. I have simulated an oscillator with AGC startup problems in which the blocking oscillations were very nonuniform until finally the right conditions caused it to settle to uniform amplitude. To the credit of spice, the physical oscillator exhibited the same startup behavior. Fiddling with the AGC time constant in the simulation produced a tolerable startup time, and, surprise, the physical oscillator also cooperated. The last twenty years or so has seen the development of chaos theory applied to oscillators. A chaotic oscillator has an almost periodic waveform, but varies somewhat 'randomly'. A spice simulation of a chaotic oscillator is fun to play with; if you build it, the sound is fascinating. This phenomenon has even been observed in certain phase locked loops, the circuit taken straight from the manufacturer's application notes. I can send some chaos references from the engineering literature on request(it's not quite QRP.) In my opinion, the benefits of spice simulations, especially the effects of nonlinearities using transient analysis, are worth the obligation for me to understand the output and have some idea what to expect. It's a daunting problem to incorporate nonlinearities in a transient analysis done by hand. Anyone for driving a class-C stage through a saturating toroid and estimating the harmonic output? (I don't think that's a Pacificon, Dayton, or Atlanticon challenge ;^)

73, Jeff KD6MNP.

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 07:23:35 -0600
From: FaithD@mail01.dnr.state.wi.us
To: boice@bigfoot.com
Cc: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [31447] Re: Replacing ZM-1 tuning cap
Message-ID: <54F85D7F6DE2D01184EF0000F8049535CCD80D@MAIL04>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain

The tuning cap sold by Mouser is not the correct one. They stopped carrying the dual 270 pf caps a couple years ago or so. Contact Emtech first and see if they have extras to sell as replacements. When Roy G. bought the last batch, he got a bunch of them but they may have already gone into ZM-2 kits.

They have been hard to come by since Mouser stopped carrying them (it is generally necessary to import them from the Far East in quantities of 1000).

Another possible option is Electronix Express (<http://www.elexp.com/>). Their website indicates that they have the needed capacitor. However, the part description is contradictory and since I haven't ordered it from them I don't know if it is truly the dual 270 pf cap or if it is actually the same as is available from Mouser, one 59 pf section and one 142 pf section). Please let me know if one of the above option works out or not (I have some other alternatives if they don't but would appreciate hearing regardless).

73 (es 72) de N9WR, Don C. Faith III

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 14:02:57 GMT
From: mwattcpa@earthlink.net (Marty Watt)
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [31448] Re: IC-730 WARC; TS-50 QRP mod.
Message-ID: <36b410d9.119405894@mail.earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

On Sat, 30 Jan 1999 01:01:13 EST, Ed Loranger <we6w@juno.com> wrote:

>Thanks a lot. It is nice working together on these
>mods -- sure makes radio more fun and less chore. =20
>
>I hear that the ALC mod can be accomplished on the TS-50
>as well. I'll pass all the TS-50 info on to him and
>help where I can.

I will mention that the ALC mod is a bit more elegant, in that it will =
reduce
power fairly linearly down to mW country.

--

72 es 73 de Marty, KM7W

-----=

Memphis, Tennessee =
<http://home.earthlink.net/~mwattcpa>
VE -- NorCal #2031 -- ARCI #7514 -- QRP-L #0953 -- AK/QRP #098 -- Grid =

EM55ce

CODE WARRIOR(c) #29 -- Mobile CW -- "Taking Code on the Road with a =
Vengeance"

Member -- Tennessee Contest Group

Date: Fri, 29 Jan 1999 15:49:27 -0500
From: Scott Howell <whowell@hq.nasa.gov>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [31449] answered the question and thanks
Message-ID: <3.0.5.32.19990129154927.007f0c40@mail.hq.nasa.gov>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

ok, so I don't get any more answers like "your book must be out-of-date" etc.
I have all the books on the pc. I tried searching for the answer, but
couldn't find it based on several search criteria. I had up to Advanced
listed, but not Extra and sorry I didn't realize Extras got the lower
25kc's. So now I know.

In any case I was making my own chart up to set by the rig so I could
refresh my memory if I forgot. I generally don't once I used it a while,
but ay, never hurts to have reference material close at hand.

so, I got the answer to my question and thanks.

73 de Scott/n3byy
Fists #5030

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 07:34:39 -0700
From: Neil Klagge <w0yse@juno.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [31450] Any relayless QSK rigs out there?
Message-ID: <19990130.073440.-157565.1.w0yse@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gang,

I have been without a "main" (allband) rig for about 5 years. I am
looking for a new one that has noiseless high-speed QSK, and that will
run both QRO AND QRP for less than \$1000. I have heard that the Icom 706
and the Alinco DX77T both have relays for T/R and I am now wondering
about the TS50S of Kenwood fame. None of the reviews I have read mention

whether or not relays are used on these rigs.

Any help would be appreciated. Thanks!

72 , Neil, w0yse (Y-guy #3), a QRP-L digest reader.
Now using only solar power for QRP <><

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or call Juno at (800) 654-JUNO [654-5866]

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 08:30:20 -0600
From: Jim <kj5tf@madisoncounty.net>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [31451] Announcing the Milliwatt WAS contest
Message-ID: <36B3177C.2CDF@madisoncounty.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Announcing the Milliwatt WAS Award, from Arkansas QRP Club

The contest will run one year. Starting 00:00Z 1/31/99 - 23:59 1/31/2000
all bands, CW only.

First prize will be announced shortly.

This contest will be run over the year in the W03B Bob White WASTP
style.

Work all states, log output power for each QSO. Total the accumulated
power, and the lowest score is the winner.

Sample log,

STATE	STN	DATE	TIME Z	FREQ	Ur RST	Yr Pwr (WATTS)
Ala						
Ak	WL7KY	31/1/99	22:07Z	28.023	519	.030
Az						
Ar						

Ca N6MM 31/1/99 23:52Z 21.060 559 .045
ETC

ETC

Wa KL2A/7 31/1/99 17:18Z 28.020 229 .001

Wy

NUMBER OF STATES WORKED 3 - WASTP .076

Make 1st contact with another station with the lowest possible power. To qualify for the AR QRP mW WAS certificate you power total for all 50 states must be 49.99 or less. So 900mW is a good place to start.

By following some suggestions, hints, kinks, and tricks, almost anyone can Work All States with an average power of 100 - 200mW per contact.

Watch QRP-L, where we will give away all our best QRP secrets. And get that mW WAS certificate in 1999!

Some of us will be posting our score on QRP-L monthly. As well as posting contest and net information that will make mW WAS more fun, and help you reduce your WAS Total Points

And don't forget the lowest WAS Total Points (watts) wins a really great prize!

As you go to a lower power level your REQUIRED exchange is, RST and POWER to qualify that as the lowest power worked on that contact.

Go as low as you can and you have a shot at 1st prize!

Entries must explain how they measure output power. Describe rig, and antennas used.

Logs should be submitted by the last day of February, 2000. Either by email sent to kj5tf@madisoncounty.net or US Mail to, Jim Hale KJ5TF, HC 65 Box 261-B, Kingston, Arkansas 72742. All logs sent by mail must include \$1 for postage costs. DX and Canada is extra.

All who complete mW WAS will be eligible for a certificate from Arkansas QRP. Which will be a nice award to hang on your shack wall. Cost will be \$2. For the contest or certificate we won't ask for QSL cards to prove WAS, only your logs and your word of honor is necessary. But you should possess QSL cards for each state you claim. We trust you.

At milliwatt levels you will be in there one moment and gone the next, only to ride the conditions back up again. This is the thrill of pushing operator skills, receiver's, feedlines, and antennas to there limits!

Most milliwatters have best success by playing in the many amateur radio contests. There you will find big gun stations with big antennas. My favorite "trick" is to look up and down the CW bands for contest stns CQ'ing with few takers. Ten meter band for example, the biggest pile-ups are near 28.010MHz, but look up band around 28.050, 28.070 and above. There you can find lonely contest stns who will work hard to hear you. Also late in the afternoon on Sunday many hams are tired and there's an open door for you.

If you complete the Milliwatt WAS you will no longer be a standard QRP operator. You will advance your skills, and look at your entire ham station in a whole new way. Get ready for ultimate QRP in the new millenium.

For more information contact Jim Hale kj5tf@madisoncounty.net

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 09:43 -0500 (EST)
From: Brett Gazdzinski <Brett.Gazdzinski@mci.com>
To: mwattcpa@earthlink.net (Marty Watt), QRP-L@lehigh.edu
Subject: [31452] Re: Various issues
Message-ID: <19990130144611.LSYM1406@localhost>

Marty,

You explained the situation perfectly.

>From just looking at the sierra, and some of the other rigs, on the Internet web pages, I could not detect much of a difference in them....parts counts, type of construction, ect.

But your(and many others) total endorsement of the thing really points out the performance advantages of it.

I was not trying to compare the I735, or the ts440 I have to the sierra as a qrp rig, just what you pay, and what you get.

Did I make a mistake in ordering the emtech?
Now I want a sierra also.

While I would like to backpack(I've done quite a bit of the Appalachian trail) I don't think my wife would be into it:(
I used to use my gonset g76 as the portable rig, but not backpacking!
I have one of those hand crank generators that will power it on recieve, but tx is out of the question!

Maybe I should look into converting to to a 12 volt charger.....

What I want is a small rig to have on the table with headphones, to use as we sit in the den and my wife watches TV.
I would like to get 5 watts out though, so I could DOMINATE the frequency!

The icom is not real large, but the power supply is like an anchor.
I don't really like the commercial stuff anyway, I only use it for a driver for the 813 rig and the 30k1.
Maybe I should trade it for a sierra and get one of those vfo kits!

The sierra guys should post some of the responses to my email on their web page for shoppers....I dug and dug and dug and did not come up with the outstanding endorsements I've gotten after I dogged it!

Thanks to all who sent me info about it...now I want one....

Brett
N2DTS

Date: Fri, 29 Jan 1999 09:49:06 -0500
From: ntan <ntan@crosslink.net>
To: QRP-L <qrp-l@lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [31453] H-brewing
Message-ID: <36B1CA59.444F16E8@crosslink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

15m hb dc rx update.....so far so good. After some changes to coils and a few cap changes and a minor resistor change, things seem to be heading in the right direction. The PD is my first attempt to roll my own, using diodes, usually used the 602. Made up the bandpass filter this am and check for the osc. on 10.5mhz and then checked on 21.0 and sure enough, there too. Checking with an audio osc from the ant end, I hear the buzz. Hooked everything up, attached ant. and heard Religious SW stations. Looking back at my notes for a 30m dc rx, using the 602, had same thing and but solved it by correct voltage to pin 6 and also revamping the bandpass filter. Maybe this one needs the same touch. Will also try a preamp. Any of you builders got any thoughts? Am I right to assume that the hb PD is working (hearing sw bc)? One other comment.... most of the stuff I've made is layed out on ds copperclad board, and one side gnd and the other side with islands either etched or

cut with razor knife. I never breadboarded using ugly method. Well this time I've done the breadboarding using ugly method and man that can get like a rats nest!! I think I like all or nothing approach! Keep it LOW-72 Neil WA4CHQrp

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 10:23:30 -0500
From: Hank Kohl K8DD <k8dd@contesting.com>
To: w0yse@juno.com
Cc: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [31454] Re: Any relayless QSK rigs out there?
Message-ID: <4.1.19990130095734.013242e0@192.0.0.1>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 07:34 AM 1/30/99 -0700, Neil Klagge wrote:

>Gang,

>

>I have been without a "main" (allband) rig for about 5 years. I am
>looking for a new one that has noiseless high-speed QSK, and that will
>run both QRO AND QRP for less than \$1000. I have heard that the Icom 706
>and the Alinco DX77T both have relays for T/R and I am now wondering
>about the TS50S of Kenwood fame.

The TS-50S is relayless. There is a T/R relay, but it does not become active until you plug an RCA plug into the relay jack. And the center pin has to be long enough to activate the switch to enable the relay. Otherwise the TS-50S is noisless. And the QSK is very good.

73 Hank K8DD

*/ Hank Kohl K8DD k8dd@contesting.com
*/ ARRL TS <http://www.tir.com/~k8dd>
*/ MI-QRP - Vice Pres. QRP-ARCI - Director
*/ G-QRP ARRL/LM QCWA/LM QCAO/LM

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 10:31 -0500 (EST)
From: Brett Gazdzinski <Brett.Gazdzinski@mci.com>
To: David Newkirk <dpnewkirk@home.com>, QRP-L@lehigh.edu
Subject: [31455] Re: QRP Frequency at 9 to 11 PM (Was RE: New subscriber, info wanted...)

Message-ID: <19990130153317.XWMM8311@localhost>

Dave,

Thanks for the info.

Now I find I ordered the wrong rig, for the wrong band!

I guess I will save for an 80 meter sierra...

My antennas at the moment are a slightly loaded 80 m dipole

(its about 105 ft long with coils in it)

1:1 swr at 3880 kHz, up about 45 feet, and a Butternut vertical for 80 and 40, 160 meter coil not installed.

The vertical needs ground work though, as the lawn mower ate some of the radials....

I run the dipole through a big heathkit antenna tuner, the vertical is broad banded.

I've been listening on 40m at nite, and there is a lot of qrm on it, and not a lot of cw stations that I can hear.

I want a quiet band with lots of room to have long (and slow) rag chew cw contacts.

I suppose I should check out some of the new bands....I'm still stuck in the 80, 40, and 15m rut.....

Thanks for the great info!

Brett

N2DTS

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 09:37:38 -0700

From: Bruce Grubbs <bog@flagstaff.az.us>

To: qrp-l@LeHigh.edu

Subject: [31456] FYBO Op

Message-ID: <3.0.5.32.19990130093738.00972210@mail.infomagic.com>

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Scott, K7ZEN, and I will be operating FYBO from last year's location, Wet Beaver Creek near Camp Verde. Hey, if the desert crowd can go to the snow, the snow (we have a little) crowd can go to the desert!

We'll be using the new Northern Arizona QRP Association call, W7TA0.

72

Bruce N7CEE

Flagstaff, AZ

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 10:42:03 -0600
From: "George T. Baker" <w5yr@swbell.net>
To: ham-radio-history@egroups.com
Cc: N7YA@aol.com, lowpowerdx@egroups.com, qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [31457] Re: [ham-hist] Re: [LowPowerDX] oops...forgot one
Message-ID: <36B3365B.FE4C27C6@swbell.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Guys, I was disappointed to see that no one (including my lazy self!) nominated an outstanding ham who, with George Grammer, has done more to make hams aware of the "real" story of transmission line operation than anyone else: Walt Maxwell, W2DU.

His writings in QST in the 70's, later collected in "Reflections," have proved to be the nearest thing to "tablets from the mountain" for those of us who want to understand how our antenna feed systems are working and why.

72/73, George

Amateur Radio W5YR, in the 53rd year and it just keeps getting better!
AutoPOWER Systems, Fairview, TX (30 mi NE Dallas) Collin County
QRP-L QRP-ARCI FISTS NORCAL ZOMBIE #522 ARS 10-X 33.2 N 96.6 W EM13RE

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 11:54:06 -0500
From: John R Kirby <n3aaz-qrp@juno.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [31458] PSK31
Message-ID: <19990130.115535.-29979.0.n3aaz-qrp@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hay gang you know I must brag on this,

Just had the pleasure to QSO Peter (Mr. PSK31) -G3PLX- on 15 meters / 1615Z.

Both 559, Yep I was QRP with G5RV antenna.

Let me say again >this PSK31 is one low power mode<

You will never guess what broke up the QS0? ...A *LOCAL* RTTY station and he was not QRP HI HI(NOW THAT WAS NOT A NEGATIVE COMMENT, I run RTTY too but not as much as CW).

John
N3AAZ
FM19xb
.

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or call Juno at (800) 654-JUNO [654-5866]

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 10:53:17 -0600
From: "George T. Baker" <w5yr@swbell.net>
To: whowell@hq.nasa.gov
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [31459] Re: answered the question and thanks
Message-ID: <36B338FD.2D83D437@swbell.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Scott, to tell the truth, that bottom 25-kHz of all bands is what attracted many of us to get the Amateur Extra way back when.

I got one of the first ten Extras issued from the Dallas FCC office in October 1954. The exam was far tougher than the First Class Radiotelephone exam and the Ship Radar Endorsement exam, which I had taken the previous year, and they were *serious* about receiving and SENDING 20 wpm (with a hand key) before an FCC Examiner.

But, the lure of a relatively QRM-free 25 kHz for dxing and whatever was sufficient draw for many of us. The years have proved the wisdom of "going for it!"

72/73, George

Amateur Radio W5YR, in the 53rd year and it just keeps getting better!
AutoPOWER Systems, Fairview, TX (30 mi NE Dallas) Collin County
QRP-L QRP-ARCI FISTS NORCAL ZOMBIE #522 ARS 10-X 33.2 N 96.6 W EM13RE

Scott Howell wrote:

>

> I didn't realize Extras got the lower 25kc's.

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 12:18:05 -0500
From: "Todd Carpenter" <carpentt@citrine.indstate.edu>
To: "qrp-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>, "gqrpclub" <owner-gqrp-l@blacksheep.org>
Subject: [31460] ISUARC Project 2
Message-ID: <2D56542626A@citrine.indstate.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi guys. The club has narrowed our consideration to some version of the pixie. Anybody want to comment on its performance as a novice rig? Todd

Date: 30 Jan 99 12:30:39 EST
From: Roy Lincoln <wa4dou@usa.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [31461] Re: [Heroes/Who's Who....Honor List (long)]
Message-ID: <19990130173039.20581.qmail@www0x.netaddress.usa.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi All,

Lets not forget W2CTN, qsl manager for many dx stations for many years....

73 Roy WA4DOU-----

well gang, i asked for some reflections and opinions on who all of you thought was deserving of recognition in ham radio...and i was bombarded!!

many of the people im about to list have contributed in ways that are either huge and widely recognized, or small but still very important, i have also put a star next to the names of those who received more than one endorsement...so

heres just a small list of the elmers, teachers, advocates, explorers and inventors that helped make ham radio what it is today....lets give them their due respect, and use them as an example for teaching our future hams.

Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW, founder of the ARRL
Sen. Barry Goldwater, K7UGA, strong ham advocate *****
Yagi Uda, Japanese ham pioneer
Arnie Coro, C02KK, hosts ham radio show on Radio Havana Cuba, avid ham
King Hussien, JY1, King of Jordan, avid operator in that country
W7ZOI
Lew McCoy, W1ICP, writer, antenna guru ****
Doug Demaw, W1FB, writer, elmer to many ****
Wayne Greene, W2NSD, editor
Derry Spittle, VE7QK, elmer, avid qrp op
Sam Barricklow, K5KJ, DXer, Skywarn brass, elmer
L B Cebik, W4RNL, program developer
Brian Beezly, K6STI, program developer
Roy Lewallen, W7EL, program developer
N4LNE, elmer
AJ4Y, elmer
Bill Orr, W6SAI, writer, antenna guru ***
Norcal QRP Club...nuff said!
AC6V, The webmaster of THE ham supersite!
Jim Reid, KH7M, propagation guru and nice guy
Bud, AC4MY, elmer for CW
K4OJ, president of Florida contest group
Frank Jones, pioneer **
Frank Lester, pioneer
Gunderson, W2JIO, blind ham elmer
Paul Godley, pioneer
Gus Browning, W4BPD, DX explorer **
Danny Weil, VP2VB, DX explorer **
Geoff Watts, SWL, creator of the IOTA program
Martti Laine, OH2BH, DX explorer
Dick Spencely, KV4AA, well known DXer
Don Wallace, W6AM, inventor, pioneer ***
Don Miller, W9WNV, DX explorer
Ted McElroy, pioneer, holder of CW land speed record on straight key
Bill Haligan, manufacturer
Faust Gonset, manufacturer
Clinton DeSoto, historian
Ed Raser, historian
Bruce Kelly, historian
Louise Moureau, historian
Stu Perry, low band pioneer
Harry Lord, ham hero
Arthur Godfrey, K4LIB, entertainer, voice on first ARRL promo films **
Jean Shepard, K2ORS, screenwriter, actor, broadcaster **

George Lamb, pioneer **
Andy Devine, entertainer **
Walter Kronkite, W2GSD, broadcaster
Alvino Rey, entertainer
Gen. Curtis Lemay
Butch Griswold
Bob Locher, W9KNI, writer, avid DXer
Joe Jeffries, WL7E, DXer, elmer
Ken Greene, KL7JAI, elmer
Alyssa, KB9THU, 9 yr old YL CW contester
Lloyd Colvin, W6KG, DX pioneer
Iris Colvin, DX pioneer
Bill Bennett, W7PHO, DXer, net control, founder of WWDXA **
Joe Arcure, W3HNK, qsl manager extraordinaire
Yuri Gagarin, cosmonaut, avid DXer
Jim Lamb, inventor
Joe Moskey, elmer
Byron Goodman, W1DX, ARRL writer ****

There are too many more to list...but this is just in response to my question. some of them i put there, but 99% of them you put on the list, i just posted it up.

some folks may or may not agree on some of the people on the list...but if its there, then somebody must have been affected by their accomplishments. i hope you enjoyed the thread and the list. Thanks to everyone for responding, i enjoyed it....nice break from the bickering and heated debates.

73...Adam, N7YA

Get free e-mail and a permanent address at <http://www.netaddress.com/?N=1>

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 10:33:47 -0700
From: Dick Schneider <rschneid@ix.netcom.com>
To: qrp-l <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [31462] surprise in mailbox
Message-ID: <36B3427B.5681CA9F@ix.netcom.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Came home from the tractor factory yesterday to find a Norcal 20 poking out of the mailbox. Kit and components look great. Nice job. Hope to get it built for an on-the-air hammin-on-the-go test during an upcoming

quick trip to key west.

Dick AB0CD..

Date: 30 Jan 99 12:51:03 EST
From: Roy Lincoln <wa4dou@usa.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [31463] Re: [Re: Y2K: critical role for QRP]
Message-ID: <19990130175103.19427.qmail@www0r.netaddress.usa.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Gang,

Careful, the Clintonistas will be labeling you "paranoid" and part of the "right wing lunatic fringe" for espousing too much of this stuff.

Seriously, i think its as much a mistake to take it all too seriously as to pay it no mind. At least it hurts nothing to give it all some careful consideration and being prepared in basic areas of life.

73 Roy WA4DOU(N.C.)

The Nebraska Public Power District has issued a draft point paper suggesting to utility managers that they request help now from local hams to provide alternate communications during the turnover. They are dependent on phones lines for their operations and are apparently concerned about having these available.

Chris Brewster has a good point.

It is prudent to be prepared for some problems.

Think basics. Food, water,heat, light and power for that qrp rig! If Y2K is just a whisper, all that has been lost is a little time and effort, and you'll be ready for the next outage/emergency.

This could also be a great opportunity for Hams to serve the public, and provide another reason why spectrum should be dedicated to our great hobby.

73, Rex, KA7NQK
Bellevue, NE

Get free e-mail and a permanent address at <http://www.netaddress.com/?N=1>

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 10:56:28 -0700
From: Niel Skousen <skousen@srv.net>
To: carpentt@citrine.indstate.edu, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [31464] Re: ISUARC Project 2
Message-ID: <4.1.19990130103428.009b8600@if.scientech.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Hi Todd, a couple of observations.... (NOTE this is from a NON-Pixie user...!)

I would strongly suggest either a SW40+, a SST40 (Novice band), or a Wilderness 40A for the following reasons.

- it seems the majority of these users are potentially first time QRPers. In my opinion the Pixie's, Fireball's, and other extreme minimalist rig's are depending on the users skills and experience to augment the rig for effective communication. In the case of the beginning builder

- though these rigs are extremely cost effective, the difference in costs is quite likely to be offset by the additional rig effectiveness, and tolerance for lack of experience. How much time learning the rig, and operating skills is htere for each type of rig ? How much is that time worth ? What percentage of the potential builders will successfully get on the air after building, and how many will not overcome the learning curve ?

Consider for example (these are illustrative numbers ONLY), a typical 'budding qrp-er' with a SW40+/Wilderness40 may need 8-10hr of playing/trying/cq's after building to successfully complete his first QSO on the new/first rig, and the 'budding qrp-er' with a Pixie may need 24-30 hr to learn the rig and what its telling him. Many may not make it to the 'fun' point.

(remember things like offset, bandwidth, signal isolation, are not only techical attributes but operator skills... some on this list can copy code that is only present in the change of noise characteristics, I cannot... most newbies can't, nor can they copy a 150 hz offset from a 'nominal'pixie...)

- While counting cost, don't forget to count the cost of 'kit-ing' and instructions. Who will pay the cost of kitting the Pixie ? Some internal elmers are more critical for club pixie build than for an SW40+ build with a very large and available instruction/explanation base to draw on, and 'kitting' consists of a phone call to Dave Bensen, not 48 hrs of 1 or 2

individuals pulling it together for the club.

That said you might consider communications, especally QRP, is a systems problem. This system consists of a user, his experience & skill, the rig (Tx pwr, stability, rx sensitivity, offset, rx bandwidth, etc all play a factor....) the feedline, the antenna, propagation, the other guy, etc.) In the same way we can make trade offs in a communications system (trading power for operator skill, feedline loss for low noise in backpacking environments for example), you need to look at ****ALL*** the costs and trade offs for your club project.

You can make the Pixie a successful club project, and you won't find a better place to get help, just know what your going into !!! I suspect that other choices will be better, and this is an epistle already =*8-)

Good luck, and put me on your list to holler at if you have questions...

Niel

OBTW, a Pixie6 is on my 'this summer' list, but Ed's already beat me to it !!

At 12:18 PM 1/30/99 -0500, you wrote:

>Hi guys. The club has narrowed our consideration to some version of the
>pixie. Anybody want to comment on its performance as a novice rig? Todd
>

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 11:17:19 -0800
From: "Francis Callahan" <colcal@srv.net>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [31465] Breadboard Book
Message-ID: <199901301805.LAA27951@srv.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I recently recieved a 3M Solderless Breadboard in a trade and was woundering if there are any books on using this unit. 72 Cal e mail colcal@srv.net

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 14:00:17 EST
From: Ed Loranger <we6w@juno.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [31466] K2 Mania! NC-20's! Where to park?
Message-ID: <19990130.110016.4903.12.we6w@juno.com>

Wow, what a sweet sounding rig. I just worked Eric
WA6HHQ and that K2 sure sounded sweet. Eric was
still 599 at 1 Watt.

Shoot. I thought I knew what a T9 (Tone) was,
May have to start giving out 599X again! But
is that good enuf?

Standard disclaimers. Heck, I'm using a borrowed
rig here. Which reminds me, I can't wait to
here one of them fine NC-20's!!!

If 1998 was the year of QRP rig design, 1999
is the year of QRP rig design celebration!

Now if we can just get Ford to help put one
in every Garage.
72, Ed WE6W, AR Millennium QSO's=231/2000
<http://www.qsl.net/we6w> Radio, everyday in Santa Rosa, CA
QRP-L#1068 AR#112 QRP-Z#106 ARCI:9397 Norcal#2227 QAA#006

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or call Juno at (800) 654-JUNO [654-5866]

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 14:19:45 -0500
From: Hank Kohl K8DD <k8dd@contesting.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [31467] NOT FS: Icom IC-751A
Message-ID: <4.1.19990130140613.00a843d0@192.0.0.1>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Sold!

>For sale - Icom IC-751A

Sold!

73 Hank K8DD

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 99 13:26:36 -0500
From: Chuck Adams <adams@ticnet.com>
To: qrp <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [31468] NC20 fever
Message-ID: <E106fzX-0006Mg-00@smtp.ticnet.com>

Gang,

I know that there are over 2,000 subscribers to the list that haven't seen much on the NC20 other than the postings and the pics on the web.

So in order to add more to the confusion I have started a series of photos on the web page shown below in the signature as mine arrived this morning.

One thing that I can add is that I don't remember too many PC boards being that dense on the lands. I don't know if Eckerds or the All For A Dollar place have reading glasses strong enough now for me. :-) :-) And Doug, the extra money that NorCal spent on the bed of nails was the best money spent IMHO. With that kind of board and that density the QA issue had to be #1 in your mind. Especially with 1,000 boards total..... It is appreciated on this end of the "kit chain".

My guess is that Jim Cates and Doug Hendricks can bench press more weight than most of us on the list can right now. :-)

It was worth the wait gang and good job and a round of applause for the group. From a NorCal Zombie with a low number. :-)

dit dit

--
Chuck Adams K5FO adams@ticnet.com CP-60
<http://www.ticnet.com/k5fo>

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 14:24:22 -0500
From: "Richard Brummer" <obvious@bestweb.net>

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.edu>, <N7YA@aol.com>
Subject: [31469] WHO'S WHO
Message-ID: <004c01be4c86\$2e4735e0\$2005b3d8@default>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Adam and Gang,

Let's not forget:

Owen Garriott, W5LFL, first American ham in space
George Hart, W1NJM, "father" of the National Traffic System
Vic Clark, W4KFC, ARRL President, "Grand Old Ham"

Many more I'm not thinking of, plus some personal "elmers"

Ken Phillips, W4ICK, (ex-K2LMA) My 7th contact; led me "by the hand"
Augie Oechsli, K2PQY (SK) Technician "extraordinaire"
Gary Spickerman, K2QLC (SK) Technician "extraordinaire"
Vito Colantuono, WA2PJF Taught me how to solder !!

72/73
Dick K2REB

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 10:28:07 -0900
From: Bruce Hopkins - KL7H <kl7h@eagle.ptialaska.net>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [31470] ZM1 / ZM2 Polycap Replacement
Message-ID: <v03007801b2d90bcf6c1b@[208.151.118.44]>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Hi Gang...

Noticed the recurring thread on the polycaps needed for the ZM1 / ZM2
ATU's... I was just off researching 80 meter kits for a Ham in the bush
and see on Emtech's page that they list the Polycap replacements available
for \$3.00... Here is the URL for same...

<http://emtech.steadynet.com/qrporder.htm>

Hope that this is of some help...

Anyone have any suggestions on 80M single band CW kits other than the SW-80+, NW80/20, or TAC1/80 ???

Take care and have fun...

72 / 73 / oo's - Bruce - KL7H
Fairbanks, Alaska

"Alaska QRP Club" - Web Site: <http://www.ptialaska.net/~bhopskins/akqrp>
- 10 Meter Beacon: 28.2825 +/- KL7AQC / BCN

Date: 30 Jan 99 14:26:16 EST
From: Roy Lincoln <wa4dou@usa.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [31471] Re: [Re: Fw: [Re: 13 wpm code exam]]
Message-ID: <19990130192617.28217.qmail@www08.netaddress.usa.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dear Brian, Brent and anyone else interested in this subject!

Brent gave up a story about a "test" he conducted. Being comfortable with 28

wpm, he decided to see if other ops would slow down, in the real world. Apparently they did, en masse. But heres why Brents data is flawed!

In the real world, an operator who is sending at 7-10 wpm likely can't even pick out the call of a station operating at 28 wpm. It might as well be a million

wpm difference. If it happens at all, i think its seldom. Generally, the likely scenario of a station calling one, where the speed capability differential of the two ops exists, would be to call one whose speed is only moderately higher.

Conversely, were an operator to call a slower speed operator, generally ,he's going to reduce speed.

We're not all the same. Some of you love winter. I hate and despise cold weather. I don't start even feeling comfortable till 70 degrees F. At 100 deg. F

i thrive. At 122 deg. F i'm doing fine. We're not all biased the same on the Eg-IP curve.

Has anyone here ever fired a flintlock rifle? If so, you know the

scenario----CLICK-----Hiss!-----Boom! Gee, a guy could shoot one of those things and the time lag is so great that he could forget what he is doing and pack up and start home before the powder ignites and the rifle actually fires.

Likewise with slow cw. The time interval between characters is long enough to provide lots of opportunity for the mind to wander. Leads to more mistakes, and for some of us, a sense of boredom. Yet, increase that speed to a point where we're clipping along ,in harmony with the paddle and the keyer and our own internal sense of rythum and we're "in our element".

I sincerely doubt that there are many scenarios where ops call slower operators with a speed differential of 15-20 wpm, and vice versa.

I'll take no issue with the "accuracy " arguement. Accuracy over speed is self-evident as a desirable goal.

73 de WA4DOU Roy Lincoln (N.C.)-----

I'm reminded of the FISTS motto.

"Accuracy transcends speed. Courtesy at all times. When you've worked a FIST, you've worked a friend."

That first part is essential to communications. Many hams won't answer a slow coder, and that's their choice...one of the things that used to bug me a little bit was being in the Novice portion of 40, calling CQ at 10 wpm or less, and being answered by a 25 worder at 25 wpm. Very frustrating. When I work in the general portion I almost expect the answering station to hit me with a higher speed than I am using, but not a whole lot higher. I think it's good to push your limits on CW speed from time to time, it helps you to get faster. If I'm running 13 and a guy answers me at 15 or 16, I can learn from this...if I'm running 13 and a station answers me at 30 wpm, I have no chance. So maybe it is better to answer calls just a wee bit faster than they are sending, that way you're not in so much pain (pain...you've gotta be kidding me)and the other station gets a bit of a workout....but if 2 way communication isn't taking place, where both parties can understand each other, then you're failing. Might as well be tapping code out on a soup can.

Answering a 10wpm CQ in the Nocive band at 25 wpm is like driving 80mph in the right hand lane. All you're going to do is make yourself mad, and stress out the guy you're tailgating. If there is any pain, it was brought on by the high speeder, not the slow guy.

2 cents and change on that one....just my opinion.

brent smith wrote:

>
> In respect to the following, although on a slightly different line ... In
> response to newcomer's fears about working CW on the air, I have often
heard
> it said "If the code is too fast for you, just send QRS, and the other op
> will be pleased to slow down for you". I had my doubts. So one day I
> decided to find out. Although I normally am comfortable at 28 WPM or so for
> routine work, I set my keyer for 10 WPM began to S&P. Every time I came
> across a station sending over 25 WPM, I answered with "DE K04PY / PSE QRS".
> I worked over 30 stations that day and only one of them (a well known one,
> too) failed to reduce to match my painfully slow 10 WPM. I was impressed
> and I am now a believer ... Most ops are VERY accommodating for code speed.
> I'll admit that I did not get into any significant rag chewing, but still
> 95%+ ain't bad! I do not know if that would happen all the time, but I was
> amazed at the results that day. - Brent - K04PY
> -----
> > I'll bet your figures won't fly in the real world. I wouldn't answer
you
> at
> >7-10 wpm because that speed is painfully slow. I'm sure i'm not the
only
> one.
> >73 Roy Lincoln WA4DOU
>
> -----
>
> <SNIP>
> > While we're talking about cw, I believe in slow speed QRP. Why you
ask?
> >Let's say I'm calling CQ using say 3 Watts. I'm sending at 25 to 35
wpm. If
> >100 hams hear me, how many will answer my call? I'm only guessing but I
bet
> >only about 20 to 30 may answer the challenge. If I slow down to 12 wpm,
I
> >say 60 to 80 may attempt the call. If I slow to 7 to 10 wpm, I bet I
get
> >about 90+ to answer. So, by slowing down my speed, I have increased my
> >chances of working the stations out there. QRP is challenging enough
> without
> >decreasing the odds.
> > Maybe this is just the philosophy of a person who can't copy fast
> code.

--

=====
KB9BVN :NORCAL #2792 FISTS #5695 QRP-L #1540
39.558 N 86.095 W Johnson Co., Indiana
GRID: EM69WN - NORCAL 40A - Attic Dipole - 1.8w
=====

Get free e-mail and a permanent address at <http://www.netaddress.com/?N=1>

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 14:42:22 EST
From: Ed Loranger <we6w@juno.com>
To: carpentt@citrine.indstate.edu
Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [31472] Re: ISUARC Project 2
Message-ID: <19990130.114211.4903.16.we6w@juno.com>

A properly tuned up Pixie2 will net LOTS of QSO's for the novice. However, I recommend the novice be helped in tuning it up. Just like Dave Epps discovered that the FB-40 power was difficult to extract without fine tuning the output filter, I have first-hand experience with my homebrew pixie2, and using the slug tuned coil in the output filter allowed me to peak the filter and pass response. A mis-tuned pixie2 is more common than not, and those rigs are down in the 100 milliwatt range.

So with the pixie2 project, I would try to get together a 'tune-up' session so the Novices don't get frustrated.

Or perhaps have a contest to see who can peak theirs up to 600 mW with the parts at hand?

This is a great rig to practice on. Next you'll be building interference filters for it too. What great fun!

There is one HUGE catch. Whereas it probably doesn't take years of experience on the bands, a new ham or novice entrant might find the task of operating the rig somewhat daunting. It does take some expertise to filter out the wide front end of the radio -- using only your listening skills. Perhaps a NVIS setup on 80 meters would reduce the noise levels and get the ball running.

I missed the beginning of this topic so I don't know the

scope of it. The rig is easy to build. A little tough to optimize, harder to QSO, and the really hard part is to put it down AFTER a qso!

Promote it as a 'challenge to operate successfully' and all the neophytes will be chomping at the bit to prove they are up to the task.

-Ed

72, Ed WE6W, AR Millennium QSO's=231/2000

<http://www.qsl.net/we6w> Radio, everyday in Santa Rosa, CA

QRP-L#1068 AR#112 QRP-Z#106 ARCI:9397 Norcal#2227 QAA#006

On Sat, 30 Jan 1999 12:18:05 -0500 "Todd Carpenter"

<carpentt@citrine.indstate.edu> writes:

>Hi guys. The club has narrowed our consideration to some version of
>the

>pixie. Anybody want to comment on its performance as a novice rig?

>Todd

>

>

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or call Juno at (800) 654-JUNO [654-5866]

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 13:04:40 -0700 (MST)

From: Joe Gervais <vole@primenet.com>

To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

Subject: [31473] Re: FYBO Op (Location info)

Message-ID: <199901302004.NAA08749@usr02.primenet.com>

Howdy Folks,

Scott (K7ZEN), Zen-Master ScQRPion, wrote:

>

> Scott, K7ZEN, and I will be operating FYBO from last year's location, Wet
> Beaver Creek near Camp Verde. Hey, if the desert crowd can go to the snow,
> the snow (we have a little) crowd can go to the desert!

As long as Scott and crew promise me snow :) AB7TT will head to Pinetop, AZ to rendezvous with the AZ/NM QRP Gang, then head up into the mountains to set up a snow camp for FYBO. Goal is 9,000 ft. Me, my VE-24 tent and snowshoes,

a Sierra and an SST-20 for backup. 1/2-wave 40m vert for 40/20/15m. Plan to operate all 12 hours in the hopes that THIS year I'll FINALLY break 20F! :-)

If you hear me testing out the rigs on Friday night, please drop me a few watts and I'll give you an early temperature exchange. :)

So... where are the rest of you headed?

Cheers de AB7TT,

-Joe, vole@primenet.com, AZ ScQRPions (Phoenix)

"It's hard to be unhappy when you have warm feet."
- Dave, Fellow Snow Camper

FYBO Winter QRP Field Day - Feb 6th - See <www.extremezone.com/~ki7mn>

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 15:14:20 -0500
From: "David Elmore" <rdelmore@email.msn.com>
To: "qrp" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [31474] qrp repair
Message-ID: <000101be4c8d\$2048e360\$c9b0fad0@preferrrc>

If you were starting out in qrp homebrew what 3 or 4 pieces of test equipment would want in what order. All I have is a vtm and was going shopping and need input. Any references to a good book on radio repair would also be appreciated. 72 73 Dave KE9PO

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 12:35:43 -0800
From: "Eric Swartz - Elecraft, WA6HHQ" <erics@elecraft.com>
To: w0yse@juno.com, QRP-L <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [31475] Re: Any relayless QSK rigs out there?
Message-ID: <36B36D1F.BEB29E5A@elecraft.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Neil,

I have a TS-50. It's a great rig, but it does have a relay chattering during break-in CW.

Both Wayne and I hate noisy relays on CW, so we made the K2 fully diode switched on TX/RX.

73, Eric
<http://www.elecrafter.com>

You wrote:
Gang,

I am looking for a new one that has noiseless high-speed QSK, and that will run both QRO AND QRP for less than \$1000. I have heard that the Icom 706 and the Alinco DX77T both have relays for T/R and I am now wondering about the TS50S of Kenwood fame. None of the reviews I have read mention whether or not relays are used on these rigs.

Any help would be appreciated. Thanks!

72 , Neil, w0yse (Y-guy #3), a QRP-L digest reader.
Now using only solar power for QRP
<><

Date: 30 Jan 99 15:30:47 EST
From: Roy Lincoln <wa4dou@usa.net>
To: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [31476] Re: [qrp repair]
Message-ID: <19990130203048.7904.qmail@www0r.netaddress.usa.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Dave,

Give us an idea what your budget would be like for these items of test equipment. Also, what pieces of ham gear do you now have? Does your vtvm include scales for measuring continuity and resistance or is it, literally, just a volt meter? Does your vtvm include an r.f. probe? Would be helpful to know these things in order to have a starting point. 73 Roy

WA4DOU-----

If you were starting out in qrp homebrew what 3 or 4 pieces of test equipment would want in what order. All I have is a vtm and was going shopping and need input. Any references to a good book on radio repair would also be appreciated. 72 73 Dave KE9PO

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Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 12:37:58 -0800
From: "Eric Swartz - Elecraft, WA6HHQ" <erics@elecraft.com>
To: k8dd@contesting.com
Cc: QRP-L <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [31477] Re: Any relayless QSK rigs out there?
Message-ID: <36B36DA6.193633E0@elecraft.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Hank,

I listened to my TS-50 and there is a small reed relay clicking during CW. (I don't have anything plugged into the relay jack.) Am I hearing things, or is there a newer version of the TS-50?

Eric

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 15:41:28 -0500
From: Russ Hines <radioruss@fuse.net>
To: rdelmore@email.msn.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [31478] Re: qrp repair
Message-ID: <36B36E78.170CF13@fuse.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi David:

I'd pick an oscilloscope, RF signal generator, and frequency counter. You can build things like dummy loads, wattmeters, attenuators and such. I prefer a DMM, but a VTVM is quite valuable, hold on to it.

73,
WB8ZCC

David Elmore wrote:

>
> If you were starting out in qrp homebrew what 3 or 4 pieces of test
> equipment would want in what order. All I have is a vtvm and was going
> shopping and need input. Any references to a good book on radio repair would
> also be appreciated. 72 73 Dave KE9PO

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 15:55:12 -0500
From: "Richard Brummer" <obvious@bestweb.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.edu>
Subject: [31479] REFLECTIONS
Message-ID: <00b001be4c92\$dd60d700\$2005b3d8@default>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gang,

I've been around all the major book stores, online and off line, Barnes and Noble, etc. etc. I'd like to read "Reflections....." by Maxwell.

Anyone care to lend me a copy ?

Of course, I'll cover shipping.

73,
Dick K2REB

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 15:48:36 -0500
From: "Stephen Gibson" <SWGibson@worldnet.att.net>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [31480] Soldering coax connectors

Message-ID: <000901be4c92\$8b56a480\$c07a4e0c@default>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Do any of you with soldering expertise have any hints for someone who is having trouble getting the solder to adhere to the braid thru the teensy hole in the PL-259 - that's me. I've been doing it for years but it is always a pretty much hit-or-miss operation. I'd like to know how to do it properly before I go to the great ham fest in the sky.

Thanks in advance.

72/73

Steve, WB4NBI

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 16:00:12 -0500
From: Hank Kohl K8DD <k8dd@contesting.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [31481] Re: Any relayless QSK rigs out there?
Message-ID: <4.1.19990130155702.023aaaf0@192.0.0.1>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 10:23 AM 1/30/99 -0500, Hank Kohl K8DD wrote:

>
>The TS-50S is relayless. There is a T/R relay, but it does not become
>active until you plug an RCA plug into the relay jack.

Wrong again I was! There is a reed relay - and if you turn the sidetone the whole way down, turn the AF Gain the whole way down and turn the background noise in the room the whole way down you can hear it. I really had to listen for it, but it is there.

73 Hank K8DD

*/ Hank Kohl K8DD k8dd@contesting.com
*/ ARRL TS http://www.tir.com/~k8dd
*/ MI-QRP - Vice Pres. QRP-ARCI - Director
*/ G-QRP ARRL/LM QCWA/LM QCAO/LM

problems. I find that if I clean with alcohol (91% isopropyl) and then either apply a little RMA flux from a flux pen it generally works fine. And, make sure you use a short stubby tip when you solder large items - faster heat transfer = better soldering.

73,

--ncc kb1dej

Stephen Gibson wrote:

> Do any of you with soldering expertise have any hints for someone who is
> having trouble getting the solder to adhere to the braid thru the teensy
> hole in the PL-259 - that's me. I've been doing it for years but it is
> always a pretty much hit-or-miss operation. I'd like to know how to do it
> properly before I go to the great ham fest in the sky.

>

> Thanks in advance.

>

> 72/73

>

> Steve, WB4NBI

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 16:26:45 -0500 (EST)

From: James Skalski <jskalski@buffnet.net>

To: Nick & Susan Caruso <nzc@mediaone.net>

Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [31484] Re: Soldering coax connectors

Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.03.9901301624260.711-100000@valhalla.valhalla.buffalo.edu>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Heat and lots of it. Quickly get up to temp...melt that solder and let it flow. Then just as quickly...get out. Let it cool without moving it. Don't try to cool it with your thumb and forefinger. I've tried that and it doesn't work. Ouch!

73,

Jim N2go

Date: 30 Jan 99 16:23:06 EST
From: Roy Lincoln <wa4dou@usa.net>
To: owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [31485] Re: [Soldering coax connectors]
Message-ID: <19990130212306.14239.qmail@www0r.netaddress.usa.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Use enough heat and a soldering gun. You need at least 100-140 watt gun. Are you talking inside or outside? Windy or calm? The shell of the PL-259 must be elevated in temp. considerably so that solder can flow. If using RG-8 or similiar, you need to tin the braid first. If using RG-8X or rg-58, you need to flow solder in the holes onto the ug-175 or ug-176 adapter. The gun tip must be introduced thru the holes until the shell/adapter is very hot, and the solder can flow over the braid on the adapter. Its an acquired skill and after you do many, you know how to do it by intuitive feel. 73 Roy
WA4DOU-----

Do any of you with soldering expertise have any hints for someone who is having trouble getting the solder to adhere to the braid thru the teensy hole in the PL-259 - that's me. I've been doing it for years but it is always a pretty much hit-or-miss operation. I'd like to know how to do it properly before I go to the great ham fest in the sky.

Thanks in advance.

72/73

Steve, WB4NBI

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Date: 30 Jan 99 16:26:56 EST
From: Roy Lincoln <wa4dou@usa.net>
To: owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [31486] Re: [Re: Soldering coax connectors]
Message-ID: <19990130212656.9359.qmail@nw171.netaddress.usa.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Someone will disagree but the only ones to use are the silver plated white teflon dielectric PL-259 connectors. If you use nickel plated mica dielectric ones, you need to file away the plateing where you're gonna solder and "tin" those areas of the shell or adapter with solder. 73 Roy WA4DOU

How obsessively do you clean the braid and other surfaces? I've found this to make a big difference. If there's lots of oxidation, a little extra flux helps. Also, if the iron can't deliver heat fast enough you can have problems. I find that if I clean with alcohol (91% isopropyl) and then either apply a little RMA flux from a flux pen it generally works fine. And, make sure you use a short stubby tip when you solder large items - faster heat transfer = better soldering.

73,

--ncc kb1dej

Stephen Gibson wrote:

> Do any of you with soldering expertise have any hints for someone who is
> having trouble getting the solder to adhere to the braid thru the teensy
> hole in the PL-259 - that's me. I've been doing it for years but it is
> always a pretty much hit-or-miss operation. I'd like to know how to do it
> properly before I go to the great ham fest in the sky.
>
> Thanks in advance.
>
> 72/73
>
> Steve, WB4NBI

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Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 14:34:02 -0700
From: Roy <marion@montana.com>
To: <elecraft@qth.net>
Cc: QRP-L@lehigh.edu
Subject: [31487] K2 in Montana!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Message-ID: <199901302135.OAA01990@mail.montana.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Yes! There be K2 in Montana. The hec with the stupor bowl. Going to have
some fun now. 72/73 Roy AB7CE

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 16:57:14 -0500
From: Sam Billingsley <SBillingsley@usaninc.com>
To: "Qrpl_Submit (E-mail)" <qrpl-1@Lehigh.EDU>, "klqrp_submit (E-mail)"
<klqrp@waterw.com>
Subject: [31488] Preventative Maintenace to your Power Sources and Rig Cables
Message-ID: <21E06269B00ED111BE9B00805F6D0FA361C672@MAILSERVER1>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain

After building homebrew gear for 30+ years I finally did the unthinkable.

In a hurry I alligator clipped up a 12v gell cell to my MFJ SWR analyzer
(Ouch!!!!!!!!!!!!) with reverse voltage. In the blink of an eye I toasted the
SWR analyzer destroying the 7805 regulator and several transistors and
FETs. This happened while I was "in the field" yesterday at lunch trying to
work a little 20 mtr CW. Needless to say it ruined my session and the rest
of the afternoon.

I had been careful with all my gell cell connections up to then but it was
an expensive mistake.

Ironically I had bought the Molex mated (keyed) connectors to put on ALL my
gell cells and power cords to the rigs. They had been sitting in my tool box
for MONTHS. In an hour (any hour) during this period I COULD have wired the
cells and rigs and I wouldn't be sending this message. But oh no I thought!
.... I CAN BE CAREFUL.

Please Please Please take the time to insure that this costly mistake is not
yours.

In addition to the mated connectors I have bought low voltage drop Schottky
diodes to put INLINE with the rigs +12v. This would have worked TOO by
itself. I'll bet that some of you like me have been operating with alligator
clips or simply wires twisted onto terminals for years. I highly recommend
that you resolve to correct this WAITING TO HAPPEN DISASTER. There are many
ways to protect yourselfDO one of them.

We QRPers are especially prone to this problem because we're constantly

building and changing our rigs and configurations. This is doubly true when you get "in the field".

BTW as of 3PM on Saturday I have wired three gell cells with connectors and rewired two rig cables to match the mated supply connector. One hour....Oh so easy.

Wiser and Poorer!

Sam AE4GX

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 21:59:48 +0000
From: Arjen Raateland <Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi>
To: QRP-L <QRP-L@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [31489] Field test of K2/SSB option anybody?
Message-ID: <36B380D4.7F47@vyh.fi>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello field testers,

If any of you will be building the SSB option into the new K2 by Elecraft, I'd like to hear all about it, hi.

TIA es 73,
Arjen

--

Arjen Raateland
SAS Support
Finnish Environment Institute, Helsinki

AX.25: OH2ZAZ@OH2RBI.FIN.EU

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 15:07:37 -0700 (MST)
From: Joe Gervais <vole@primenet.com>
To: marion@montana.com
Cc: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

Subject: [31490] Re: K2 in Montana!
Message-ID: <199901302207.PAA13198@usr07.primenet.com>

Roy (AB7CE) wrote:

>

> Yes! There be K2 in Montana. The hec with the stupor bowl. Going to have
> some fun now. 72/73 Roy AB7CE

Lucky dog! Any chance you could give us a K2 pre-game and
play-by-play during assembly/testing? :)

Congrats and enjoy!

Cheers de AB7TT,

-Joe, vole@primenet.com, AZ ScQRPions (Phoenix)

"If it ain't fun, you ain't doin' it right!" -The AZ ScQRPions

FYBO Winter QRP Field Day - Feb 6th - See <www.extremezone.com/~ki7mn>

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 15:30:45 -0700
From: Gary L Surrency <gsurrency@juno.com>
To: SWGibson@worldnet.att.net
Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [31491] Re: Soldering coax connectors
Message-ID: <19990130.153844.-4120433.0.gsurrency@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

If you're talking about RG-8/U, then I wind small, tinned bus wire around the trimmed braid. Twist the ends to retain the braid wires in place. Tin the braid and bus wires quickly with a very hot iron and small solder. Assemble the connector and finish soldering to the bus wires and braid thru the shell holes with a large iron and a big soldering tip. You have to be careful if the dielectric is foam, or it will migrate out thru the braid and interfere with soldering. 9913 and similar big coax can also be assembled in connectors this way. The idea is to provide some solid metal that is pre-tinned inside the connector holes, to ease soldering. That is much easier than trying to keep the braid wires in place as the connector is assembled, or trying to solder to only the fine braid wires. Finish the connector by soldering to the center pin and wire, and lastly trimming and/or filing the tip smooth and round. Clean any flux or excess

solder off the center pin with a sharp knife, file, etc., and use acetone on a swab or cloth to remove any flux residue before putting the connector into another fitting. You want to keep these connections clean and free of contamination.

Use only silver plated, teflon insulated connectors. If you have the old nickel-plated kind, pre-tin the part of the connector around the holes with solder before you begin. Some copper braid soaked with solder and flux under your soldering iron tip will speed the tinning. Using pliers, shake the excess solder off when you're done tinning.

For connectors that use the reducing bushing, like those for RG-58, RG-59, or RG-8X, here's what I do:

Prepare the end of the coax so that you can fold the braid back over the end of the reducer. Wrap a couple of turns of small bus wire around the braid near the loose ends and twist it to hold the braid in place. Assuming the reducer is silver-plated, or pre-tinned nickel-plated, use a very hot iron and apply small amounts of solder around the braid until the solder is soaked thru to the reducer. Avoid too much heat or you'll cause the dielectric to migrate out (especially foam dielectric). Use quick, short applications of the iron and solder until you get a secure joint with the braid sweated to the reducer.

Now grab a water soaked rag, and cool the joint until you can handle it. Unwind the small bus wire, and pull it completely off. Using small wire cutters, or my favorite - a sharp small file, trim any loose braid wires back to the soldered connection on the reducer. Make sure the solder-sweated braid will fit into the PL-259 (or whatever), and trim any high spots or lumps of solder off until it will pass into the connector. Screw the reducing bushing into the connector tightly with a big pair of pliers. There's no need to solder the bushing thru the connectors holes if you properly tighten and/or waterproof the connector for outdoor use. For indoor use, it is just fine as-is.

The advantage of this last method is, many times you can reuse the connector at a later date if the coax wears out. It works best, if you first cut the coax about 1-2 inches from the connector. This allows the center wire to rotate in the coax, as you unscrew the reducer, rather than just letting the center wire break. Pull out the reducer with the braid and coax in it, and then heat the center pin to remove the center conductor and dielectric. Clean up the reducer bushing and/or connector and re-use it if it's OK.

72, from yours truly, flu-ridden with a 103 degree temperature, and bronchitis / pneumonia. I'm going back to bed now.....cough, cough.

Gary Surrency AB7MY QRP-L #571 Chandler, AZ (near Phoenix)

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Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 17:47:28 EST
From: wb2vuo@juno.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [31492] Some babblings on 1/3-Century and counting...
Message-ID: <19990130.224518.5127.0.wb2vuo@juno.com>

An interesting Klub meeting this last Thursday. The Brockport Amateur Radio Klub had the Radio Officer for the local OEP as the speaker, this being Ed, N2EH. A really unusual meeting in as there usually isn't anyone else present that has been licensed as long as I have at our meetings.

I got my ticket in early 1966. QRP was defined as <100 watts (input), there were no commercial solid-state ham rigs out there of ANY power, a former staffer for the ARRL had just been quoted to say that "Solid-state may be useful in receivers someday, but will never be used in transmitters..." and VHF operations, (in most of the world) were on AM or CW.

One thing Ed's talk reminded me of was the days of operatino in public service events back in the PR (Pre-Repeater) days. To setup for a bicycle race, FunRun, road ralley, parade, regatta or whatever required setting up a truckload of gear at EACH checkpoint, running 20 - 100 watts of AM to maintain communications, or go to HF with 50 - 100 watts of SSB for the same coverage. Novices could participate on Phone up on 2 Meters, so most of the events were run on the 2 Meter band, normally around 145.3 Mc (frequencies didn't Hertz back then...)

I mentioned the strange chain of association in the social hour after Ed's talk, and had a 15-year "OT" in the Klub comment, "No Repeaters?!? There's ALWAYS been repeaters on 2 Meters!" My Wife, Anne (WB1GVL) echo'd the same comment, causing me to pause and think of the changes and the evolution of the hobby over these decades...

What do we have now compared to 1966? Here's a short comparison:

Repeaters - 1966: In the major cities on the coasts
1999: Everywhere (and too many on 2 Meters!)

Solid-state gear 1966: None on the Amateur market
1999: All solid-state except for some QRO amps

30/17/12 Meters 1966: Nope
1999: Yep

Ham Radio stores 1966: Most larger cities had at least one
1999: Mail order rules! The local store is rare

Homebrew gear 1966: Quite a bit, but done by a dedicated core of
homebrewers. Kits available from Heath,
Johnston, Eico, Knight, Lafayette, ect...
1999: Quite a bit, but mostly QRP rigs and accessories
and mostly kit-build rather than scratchbuilt. Kits from
Emtech, Wilderness, Kanga, Oak Hills, Small Wonder,
various club projects, etc. Also done by a
dedicated core of homebrewers...

Crowded bands 1966: Phone band was a mess on 80, 40 & 20. Room to
burn on 15 & up
1999: Phone band is a mess on 160 - 15, Room to move on
17, 12, & 10, and the CW bands are competeing with the
various keyboard-driven modes (CW is digital
according to
Part 97...)

Discourteous ops 1966: 75 and 20 were not for the thin-skinned but
pockets of civillity thrived even there. CW was
populated by (mostly) courteous ops with
receivers they used
1999: 160 - 20 Phone is very segmented with groups and
nets laying claims to spot frequencies and areas of the
bands.
Civility is rare, but found more often on 40, and found
alot on
17M and up. CW is starting to show cracks in the
politeness

Adherence to regs 1966: Most ops knew and lived by the Rules
1999: Skirting the edge is the standard

I could go on, but the one thing still evident is that those who keep
active and keep their eyes and minds open are having the most fun in the
hobby. Many more open minds here than elsewhere, just check out the VHF,
Glowbugs, Ten-10 and other reflectors to verify this. Far less whining
here than the other groups. (How do you start a fire on 10 meters? Call
"CQ" on 28.425 and Not "CQ Springbok", or operate 10 without a 10-10
number...)

All in all, I see a lot of happy and satisfied ops with a number of sourpusses mixed in. Cheer up one today!

72/73, Keith, WB2VUO, 100% QRP from the Depths of the Great Bergen Swamp.
Trustee, B/BAMS club station and the NQ2RP/B 10 Mtr QRPP beacon
"My night light runs more power than my Rig!!!"

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Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 17:59:37 EST
From: wb2vuo@juno.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [31493] Re: Soldering Coax Connectors
Message-ID: <19990130.225732.5127.1.wb2vuo@juno.com>

Use a 140 watt or bigger Weller gun, but TAKE THE TIP OFF and push the retaining nuts tightly against the connector. It takes about 3 seconds to heat the whole mass up to soldering temp. Flow the solder in the holes and let the assembly set for 5 - 10 minutes...

The connector seems to grow invisible Superglue seeing that if you touch the connector after removing the gun, it WILL adhere to you with a smell similar to the grill at McDonalds, but noisier...

If you tend to "test" a connection for conenness with your fingers, first put your insurance card in your shirt pocket so the Emergency room can get to it more easily...

72/73, Keith, WB2VUO, 100% QRP from the Depths of the Great Bergen Swamp.
Trustee, B/BAMS club station and the NQ2RP/B 10 Mtr QRPP beacon
"My night light runs more power than my Rig!!!"

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A first caveat . . . use only silver plated PL-259s. I prefer the Amphenol 83-1SPs, but actually have had pretty good luck lately with RadioShack's silver plated Teflon PL-259s. Do not use the Amphenol Astroplate versions -- Amphenol 83-1SP-1050.

- 1). Slide outer coupling ring onto cable (with threads toward end of cable) -- don't laugh -- how many times have all of us forgotten to do this!!
- 2). Cut end of coax cable with an even and straight cut, then remove outer vinyl jacket 1 1/2" while not nicking the shield braid,
- 3). Without disturbing the braid, tin the entire length of 1 1/2" of braid. Use just enough heat to get a continuous and smooth flow over the braid without damaging the inner insulation (it can be done -- but it takes some experience). Clean any left over flux with isopropyl alcohol,
- 4). Using a small (and sharp) tubing cutter, cut the braid by rotating the tubing cutter carefully around the coax braid. Make your cut so that 7/16" braid remains on the cable end,
- 5). Next, trim the inner insulation so that approx. 1/16" of center insulation extends beyond the cut braid. Do not nick the center conductor. You can simply pull off the remaining section of cut off center conductor insulation,
- 6). Gently, tin the exposed center conductor,
- 7). Insert the prepared cable end into the PL-259 with some rotational motion once the vinyl outer covering meets the internal threads of the connector. You should be able to insert the cable end so that the smooth cut outer braid passes slightly beyond the solder holes and the center conductor is well in the center pin of the connector.
- 8). Gently solder the outer braid to the connector at each hole in the connector. The trick here is to get the connector hot enough to get consistent flow, but not too hot to melt the center conductor insulation. I use a Weller soldering station with the constant temperature tips for the job. Then, solder the center conductor to the tip of the connector. Cut off extraneous center conductor at tip of connector. Clean flux with aforementioned alcohol and your done.

This method is one used in the US Navy, as well as many government agencies. Additionally, Bill Orr W6SAI describes the method in detail in his book "Wire Antennas." Using this method, the shield fits perfectly into the body of the PL-259 with continuous coverage of the braid. I have also had good success with this method on Belden 8267 (RG-213).

Hope this helps the discussion.

73,
Don Allen W9CW
Urbana, IL

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 17:25:39 -0600
From: Jim <kj5tf@madisoncounty.net>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [31496] mW WAS contest - RULES ? + free QRP tricks
Message-ID: <36B394F3.3DBC@madisoncounty.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

An interesting question came up about the mW WAS contest. I hope to clear this up now. Or try to anyway. hi

The exchange rules require that when you drop power levels, you make an exchange or RST, and your power. I ment this was to be done when you are in a regular QSO and have the chance. Naturally in a contest you cant do this with a contest station. One shot and thats it.

Now in a state QSO party you might try this little trick. Call one of the average sounding stations first, at 950mW. If you make the QSO, lower your power and move to another strong station from that state. Keep lowering your power as you work your way through the stronger and stronger stns. That gives you the lowest state power you can get.

Sunday 31 January is the Kansas QSO party. Ending at 18:00z. See whats the lowest pwr you can work Kansas with on any band.

February 2nd in the Spartin Sprint. Feb. 6-7 you will have a chance to work New Hampshire, Vermont, Delaware, and Minn. ! Plus the FYBO !

Lets chase some states with milliwatts! good luck! Jim KJ5TF ARQRP #2

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 16:28:43 -0600
From: "Marshall Emm" <mgemm@mtechnologies.com>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu, cqclist@mtechnologies.com
Subject: [31497] Panel Labels
Message-ID: <199901302328.QAA12727@edison.chisp.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7BIT

I needed to make a new control panel label for the "N1FN CW CommandPost"
and had a camera handy, so I took pix and did it up as a tutorial at
<http://www.cqc.org/library/panel.htm>

73
Marshall Emm
N1FN/VK5FN
n1fn@MorseX.com
Morse Express
"Everything for the Morse Enthusiast"
<http://www.MorseX.com>
(303)752-3382
--

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 18:28:12 EST
From: J38AL@aol.com
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [31498] MY NC20, IT'S HERE, IT'S HERE!!!!
Message-ID: <cbb28154.36b3958c@aol.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Well, I went out to clear the driveway today, got out the snowblower and
started it so it would warm up - only 14 degrees. While it was warming I
walked down the driveway to get the mail for my xyl and IT was there. Ran back
to the house not realizing what that load noise by the garage and then it hit
me. I had to spend almost TWO hours thinking about that priority mail package
while I got rid of that lousy snow. But when I did get to open IT
-----WOW!!!!!! What a thing of beauty! I read quickly through the HUGE manual
and gazed at that TERRIFIC PC board. Can't wait to build IT. Oh, and then I
have to try that 13 wpm test again. I've come soo... close.
So a great big thanks goes out to all those involved in this super kit project
!!!
72,
Al N2ZHS Scotia, NY

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 18:56 -0500 (EST)

From: Brett Gazdzinski <Brett.Gazdzinski@mci.com>
To: "Stephen Gibson" <SWGibson@worldnet.att.net>, QRP-L@lehigh.edu
Subject: [31499] Re: Soldering coax connectors
Message-ID: <19990130235847.YHUR8311@localHost>

Steve,
There are a few important things....
The braid must be very clean....no re using old radio shack coax
thats been outside for years....

Lots of heat....I use a big gun...solder will flow to the heat.
Its better to use a lot of heat fast, then not enough for a long time.

I try to get the whole connector hot, and start the solder at the top,
while holding the gun on the bottom. The solder will flow down.

I then cool the connector on the sponge of the solder stand....
After its cold, I solder the center conductor. This way it wont melt
the coax.

I never found a way to use old coax that had a badly tarnished braid.

Brett
N2DTS

.....

Date: Sat, 30 Jan 1999 15:48:36 -0500
Reply-To: SWGibson@worldnet.att.net
Sender: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
From: "Stephen Gibson" <SWGibson@worldnet.att.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: Soldering coax connectors

Do any of you with soldering expertise have any hints for someone who is
having trouble getting the solder to adhere to the braid thru the teensy
hole in the PL-259 - that's me. I've been doing it for years but it is
always a pretty much hit-or-miss operation. I'd like to know how to do it
properly before I go to the great ham fest in the sky.

Thanks in advance.

72/73

Steve, WB4NBI

End of QRP-L Digest 1352
